A/64/49 (Vol. I)

United Nations

Resolutions and Decisions
adopted by the General Assembly during its sixty-fourth session

Volume I

Resolutions

15 September – 24 December 2009

General Assembly
Official Records • Sixty-fourth Session
Supplement No. 49

Please recycle

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NOTE

The resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly are identified as follows:

Regular sessions

Until the thirtieth regular session, the resolutions of the General Assembly were identified by an arabic numeral followed by a roman numeral in parentheses indicating the session (for example: resolution 3363 (XXX)). When several resolutions were adopted under the same number, each of them was identified by a capital letter placed between the two numerals (for example: resolution 3367 A (XXX), resolutions 3411 A and B (XXX), resolutions 3419 A to D (XXX)). The decisions were not numbered.

Since the thirty-first session, as part of the new system adopted for symbols of General Assembly documents, resolutions and decisions have been identified by an arabic numeral, indicating the session, followed by an oblique stroke and another arabic numeral (for example: resolution 31/1, decision 31/301). When several resolutions or decisions were adopted under the same number, each of them has been identified by a capital letter placed after the two numerals (for example: resolution 31/16 A, resolutions 31/6 A and B, decisions 31/406 A to E).

Special sessions

Until the seventh special session, the resolutions of the General Assembly were identified by an arabic numeral followed, in parentheses, by the letter "S" and a roman numeral indicating the session (for example: resolution 3362 (S-VII)). The decisions were not numbered.

Since the eighth special session, resolutions and decisions have been identified by the letter "S" and an arabic numeral indicating the session, followed by an oblique stroke and another arabic numeral (for example: resolution S-8/1, decision S-8/11).

Emergency special sessions

Until the fifth emergency special session, the resolutions of the General Assembly were identified by an arabic numeral followed, in parentheses, by the letters "ES" and a roman numeral indicating the session (for example: resolution 2252 (ES-V)). The decisions were not numbered.

Since the sixth emergency special session, resolutions and decisions have been identified by the letters "ES" and an arabic numeral indicating the session, followed by an oblique stroke and another arabic numeral (for example: resolution ES-6/1, decision ES-6/11).

In each of the series described above, the numbering follows the order of adoption.

* * *

The present volume contains the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly from 15 September to 24 December 2009, as well as the information requested by the Assembly in section C, paragraph 3, of its resolution 54/248 of 23 December 1999. Decisions adopted by the Assembly during this period appear in volume II. Resolutions and decisions adopted subsequently during the sixty-fourth session will be published in volume III.

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RESOLUTION 64/1

Adopted at the 15th plenary meeting, on 6 October 2009, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/64/L.1 and Add.1, sponsored by: Kenya, Mexico, Qatar, Saint Lucia, Suriname, Thailand

64/1. High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 33/134 of 19 December 1978, in which it endorsed the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries,[1]

Recalling its resolution 62/209 of 19 December 2007, in which it decided to convene a High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation on the occasion of the thirtieth anniversary of the adoption of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action, no later than the first half of 2009, and its resolution 63/233 of 19 December 2008,

Taking note with appreciation of the report of the President of the High-level Committee on South-South Cooperation submitted pursuant to resolution 63/233,[2]

Reaffirming its previous resolutions relevant to South-South cooperation,

Taking note of the growing importance of South-South cooperation, and recognizing the increased role undertaken by the United Nations to support economic cooperation activities among developing countries,

Stressing that South-South cooperation, as an important element of international cooperation for development, offers viable opportunities for developing countries in their individual and collective pursuit of sustained economic growth and sustainable development,

Stressing also that South-South cooperation is not a substitute for, but rather a complement to, North-South cooperation,

Recalling the United Nations resolutions relevant to South-South cooperation and the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields, including the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development,[3] and acknowledging the Havana Programme of Action adopted at the first South Summit,[4] the Marrakesh Framework for the Implementation of South-South Cooperation[5] and the Doha Plan of Action adopted at the Second South Summit,[6]

Welcoming with appreciation the generous offer of the Government of Kenya to host the High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation,

1. *Decides* that the High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation:

(*a*) Will be held in Nairobi from 1 to 3 December 2009;

(*b*) Will be held at the highest possible level;

(*c*) Will have as its overarching theme "Promotion of South-South cooperation for development";

(*d*) Will consist of plenary meetings and interactive multi-stakeholder round tables on the following sub-themes:

(i) Strengthening the role of the United Nations system in supporting South-South and triangular cooperation;

(ii) South-South and triangular cooperation for development: complementarities, specificities, challenges and opportunities;

(*e*) Will result in an intergovernmentally agreed outcome;

(*f*) Will also result in summaries by the Chair;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare a comprehensive report, consistent with the overarching theme of the Conference, reviewing the trends in South-South cooperation, including triangular cooperation, reviewing also the progress made by the international community, in particular the United Nations, in supporting and promoting such cooperation and identifying new opportunities, as well as challenges and constraints and measures to overcome them;

3. *Reaffirms* the role of the Special Unit for South-South Cooperation within the United Nations Development Programme as a separate entity and a focal point for South-South cooperation within the United Nations system, and requests the Unit to continue to provide the necessary substantive and technical support to the preparatory process for the Conference;

4. *Encourages* Member States and their partners, including non-governmental organizations, to consider preparing reports on South-South and triangular cooperation for the purpose of the Conference, on a voluntary basis, taking into account the themes of the Conference and the outcomes of regional, subregional or sectoral United Nations meetings prior to the Conference;

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[1] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, Buenos Aires, 30 August–12 September 1978* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.78.II.A.11 and corrigendum), chap. I.

[2] A/63/741, annex.

[3] Resolution 63/239, annex.

[4] A/55/74, annex II.

[5] A/58/683, annex II.

[6] A/60/111, annex II.

5. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly to initiate informal consultations with all Member States, in an open, inclusive and transparent manner, commencing at an appropriate date to enable sufficient discussion, with a view to producing a draft outcome prior to the Conference, by the end of November 2009;

6. *Invites* United Nations organizations, including the specialized agencies, regional commissions and funds and programmes, to provide input to the preparations for the Conference;

7. *Invites* international and regional organizations, international financial institutions, non-governmental organizations and business sector entities to participate in the Conference, in accordance with the rules and procedures of the General Assembly;

8. *Invites* intergovernmental organizations and entities that have observer status with the General Assembly to participate in the Conference;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide all necessary assistance to the preparatory process and the Conference;

10. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to proceed with the organizational arrangements for the Conference in cooperation with the Government of Kenya, and further requests the Secretary-General to provide a note on the organizational aspects of the Conference;

11. *Encourages* all Member States and other relevant stakeholders that are in a position to do so to consider supporting the participation of developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, including by making voluntary contributions through the United Nations Fund for South-South Cooperation, in order to ensure the broadest possible participation;

12. *Decides* to postpone the sixteenth session of the High-level Committee on South-South Cooperation, which was to be held from 2 to 5 June 2009, to one convenient day in January 2010.

RESOLUTION 64/4

Adopted at the 21st plenary meeting, on 19 October 2009, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/64/L.2 and Add.1, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Seychelles, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, United Republic of Tanzania, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia

64/4. Building a peaceful and better world through sport and the Olympic ideal

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 62/4 of 31 October 2007, in which it decided to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fourth session the sub-item entitled "Building a peaceful and better world through sport and the Olympic ideal", and recalling also its prior decision to consider the sub-item every two years, in advance of each Summer and Winter Olympic Games,

Recalling also its resolution 48/11 of 25 October 1993, which, inter alia, revived the ancient Greek tradition of *ekecheiria* ("Olympic Truce") calling for a truce during the Olympic Games that would encourage a peaceful environment and ensure the safe passage and participation of athletes and relevant persons at the Games, thereby mobilizing the youth of the world to the cause of peace,

Taking into account the inclusion in the United Nations Millennium Declaration[7] of an appeal for the observance of the Olympic Truce now and in the future and for support for the International Olympic Committee in its efforts to promote peace and human understanding through sport and the Olympic ideal,

Recognizing the valuable contribution that the appeal launched by the International Olympic Committee for an Olympic Truce could make towards advancing the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recognizing also the increasingly important role of sport in achieving internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration, and reaffirming the commitments undertaken in this regard by the Heads of State and Government gathered at the World Summit of the General Assembly, held in New York in 2005,

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[7] See resolution 55/2.

Recalling its resolution 63/135 of 11 December 2008, in which it recognized the value of sport as a means to promote education, health, development and peace and welcomed the establishment of a United Nations Office on Sport for Development and Peace,

Recognizing that the goal of the Olympic movement is to build a peaceful and better world by educating the youth of the world through sport, practised without discrimination of any kind and in the Olympic spirit, which is based on mutual understanding, friendship, solidarity and fair play,

Welcoming the joint endeavours of the International Olympic Committee, the International Paralympic Committee and the United Nations system in such fields as human development, poverty alleviation, humanitarian assistance, health promotion, HIV and AIDS prevention, youth education, gender equality, peacebuilding and sustainable development,

Recalling the relevant articles on leisure, recreation, sport and play of international conventions, including article 30 of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,[8] recognizing the right of persons with disabilities to take part on an equal basis with others in cultural life, recreation, leisure and sport,

Noting that the XXI Olympic Winter Games will take place from 12 to 28 February 2010 and the X Paralympic Winter Games will take place from 12 to 21 March 2010 in Vancouver, Canada, with the aim of upholding sport as an inspirational means to promote peace, inclusivity, indigenous participation, social and environmental responsibility and meaningful legacies for future generations,

Noting also that the inaugural Youth Olympic Games will take place from 14 to 26 August 2010, in Singapore, with the aim of inspiring the youth of the world through an integrated sport, culture and education experience to embrace, embody and express the Olympic values,

Noting with satisfaction the flying of the United Nations flag at the competition sites of the Olympic Games and the Paralympic Games,

1. *Urges* Member States to observe, within the framework of the Charter of the United Nations, the Olympic Truce, individually and collectively, during the XXI Olympic Winter Games and the X Paralympic Winter Games;

2. *Welcomes* the decisions of the International Olympic Committee and the International Paralympic Committee to mobilize international sports organizations and the National Olympic Committees and National Paralympic Committees of Member States to undertake concrete actions at the local, national, regional and world levels to promote and strengthen a culture of peace based on the spirit of the Olympic Truce, and invites those organizations and national committees to share information and best practices, as appropriate;

3. *Calls upon* all Member States to cooperate with the International Olympic Committee and the International Paralympic Committee in their efforts to use sport as a tool to promote peace, dialogue and reconciliation in areas of conflict during the period of the Olympic Games and beyond;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to promote the observance of the Olympic Truce among Member States and support for human development initiatives through sport and to cooperate with the International Olympic Committee, the International Paralympic Committee and the sporting community in general in the realization of those objectives;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-sixth session the sub-item entitled "Building a peaceful and better world through sport and the Olympic ideal" and to consider the sub-item before the Games of the XXX Olympiad and the XIV Paralympic Games, to be held in London in 2012.

RESOLUTION 64/5

Adopted at the 21st plenary meeting, on 19 October 2009, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/64/L.3 and Add.1, as orally revised, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Philippines, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Viet Nam, Zambia, Zimbabwe

64/5. 2010 International Federation of Association Football World Cup in South Africa

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 63/135 of 11 December 2008, in which it recognized the value of sport as a means to promote education, health, development and peace and welcomed the establishment of a United Nations Office on Sport for Development and Peace,

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[8] Resolution 61/106, annex I.

Recognizing the potential of sport to contribute to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, and noting that sport has the potential, as declared in the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[9] to foster peace and development and to contribute to an atmosphere of tolerance and understanding,

Acknowledging the use of mass sports events to promote and support sport for development and peace initiatives,

Acknowledging also the role played by sport in Africa as an instrument for the promotion of unity, solidarity, peace and reconciliation, and the preventive campaigns against scourges, such as HIV/AIDS, affecting the youth of the continent,

Welcoming South Africa's readiness to host the historic 2010 International Federation of Association Football World Cup, which is to be held for the first time on the African continent in recognition of Africa's contribution to the advancement of world sports, and recalling the endorsement and support of the Heads of State and Government of the African Union for efforts to ensure the success of the event,

Noting with appreciation the role played by the African Union in helping to start the ball rolling for the 2010 World Cup in South Africa by rallying countries across the continent to use the great appeal of football for a broad range of development and peace activities through the International Year of African Football 2007 and the World Cup legacy programme,

1. *Emphasizes* the role of sport in the promotion of peace, solidarity, social cohesion and socio-economic development;

2. *Notes* that, given its universal popularity, football can bring people together and play a positive role in promoting development and peace;

3. *Welcomes* the historic and unique dimension of the 2010 International Federation of Association Football World Cup in South Africa, marking the first time that that major sports event will take place on the African continent;

4. *Also welcomes* the preparations by South Africa for the hosting of the 2010 World Cup, and expresses its continued support, where appropriate, to South Africa in the pursuit of ensuring the success of the tournament;

5. *Encourages* all Member States to support sport and its use as a tool to promote peace and development, including through the continued contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and dialogue among civilizations;

6. *Firmly supports* the launch of the 1GOAL World Cup 2010 campaign, which aims to raise global public awareness of and advocate for the importance of achieving the Millennium Development Goals of universal primary education and gender parity in education by 2015;

7. *Encourages* the relevant authorities to exert every effort to ensure that the 2010 World Cup will leave a lasting legacy for peace and development in Africa;

8. *Encourages* all Member States to support, where appropriate, including through stimulating popular attendance, the 2010 World Cup, to be hosted by South Africa in June 2010.

RESOLUTION 64/6

Adopted at the 27th plenary meeting, on 28 October 2009, by a recorded vote of 187 to 3, with 2 abstentions,* on the basis of draft resolution A/64/L.4, sponsored by Cuba

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel, Palau, United States of America

Abstaining: Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of)

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[9] See resolution 60/1.

64/6. Necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against Cuba

The General Assembly,

Determined to encourage strict compliance with the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming, among other principles, the sovereign equality of States, non-intervention and non-interference in their internal affairs and freedom of international trade and navigation, which are also enshrined in many international legal instruments,

Recalling the statements of the Heads of State and Government at the Ibero-American Summits concerning the need to eliminate unilateral application of economic and trade measures by one State against another that affect the free flow of international trade,

Concerned about the continued promulgation and application by Member States of laws and regulations, such as that promulgated on 12 March 1996 known as "the Helms-Burton Act", the extraterritorial effects of which affect the sovereignty of other States, the legitimate interests of entities or persons under their jurisdiction and the freedom of trade and navigation,

Taking note of declarations and resolutions of different intergovernmental forums, bodies and Governments that express the rejection by the international community and public opinion of the promulgation and application of measures of the kind referred to above,

Recalling its resolutions 47/19 of 24 November 1992, 48/16 of 3 November 1993, 49/9 of 26 October 1994, 50/10 of 2 November 1995, 51/17 of 12 November 1996, 52/10 of 5 November 1997, 53/4 of 14 October 1998, 54/21 of 9 November 1999, 55/20 of 9 November 2000, 56/9 of 27 November 2001, 57/11 of 12 November 2002, 58/7 of 4 November 2003, 59/11 of 28 October 2004, 60/12 of 8 November 2005, 61/11 of 8 November 2006, 62/3 of 30 October 2007 and 63/7 of 29 October 2008,

Concerned that, since the adoption of its resolutions 47/19, 48/16, 49/9, 50/10, 51/17, 52/10, 53/4, 54/21, 55/20, 56/9, 57/11, 58/7, 59/11, 60/12, 61/11, 62/3 and 63/7, further measures of that nature aimed at strengthening and extending the economic, commercial and financial embargo against Cuba continue to be promulgated and applied, and concerned also about the adverse effects of such measures on the Cuban people and on Cuban nationals living in other countries,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution 63/7;[10]

2. *Reiterates its call upon* all States to refrain from promulgating and applying laws and measures of the kind referred to in the preamble to the present resolution, in conformity with their obligations under the Charter of the United Nations and international law, which, inter alia, reaffirm the freedom of trade and navigation;

3. *Once again urges* States that have and continue to apply such laws and measures to take the necessary steps to repeal or invalidate them as soon as possible in accordance with their legal regime;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with the appropriate organs and agencies of the United Nations system, to prepare a report on the implementation of the present resolution in the light of the purposes and principles of the Charter and international law and to submit it to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled "Necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against Cuba".

RESOLUTION 64/7

Adopted at the 28th plenary meeting, on 28 October 2009, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/64/L.6 and Add.1, sponsored by: Albania, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Mexico, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Senegal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay

64/7. International Commission against Impunity in Guatemala

The General Assembly,

Recalling its relevant resolutions on the situation in Central America, and particularly resolution 63/19 of 10 November 2008 regarding the activities of the International Commission against Impunity in Guatemala,

Bearing in mind the Agreement between the United Nations and the State of Guatemala on the establishment of an International Commission against Impunity in Guatemala, which was signed on 12 December 2006, was approved by the Guatemalan Congress on 1 August 2007 and entered into force on 4 September 2007 for an initial period of two years,

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[10] A/64/97.

Noting that, in accordance with article 14 of the Agreement, the mandate of the Commission was extended for an additional two years, starting 4 September 2009, through an exchange of letters between the Government of Guatemala and the Secretary-General on 20 March 2009 and 15 April 2009 and approved by the Guatemalan Congress on 16 July 2009,

Bearing in mind that the Commission has carried out its activities through voluntary contributions of Member States and other donors from the international community and plans to do so in the future,

Noting that the Government of Guatemala has provided additional budgetary allotments to State institutions to support their work in collaboration with the Commission,

Convinced that, pursuant to Articles 55 and 56 of the Charter, the United Nations promotes respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all and that Member States pledge themselves to take action in cooperation with the Organization for the achievement of that purpose,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General regarding the current state and activities of the International Commission against Impunity in Guatemala,[11] which describes the important progress achieved as well as the significant operational challenges that result from the present status of the Commission as a non-United Nations body;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to undertake with the Government of Guatemala the steps necessary to address these operational challenges and to enhance the role that the United Nations plays in providing effective and efficient assistance to the Commission within the framework of its founding agreement signed on 12 December 2006;

3. *Calls upon* the Government of Guatemala to continue providing all the support necessary to consolidate the achievements and overcome the challenges outlined in the report of the Secretary-General;

4. *Also calls upon* the Government of Guatemala to persist in and redouble its efforts to strengthen the institutions that buttress the rule of law and the defence of human rights, and commends it for its commitment to combat impunity;

5. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Member States and other donors that have supported the Commission, through voluntary contributions, financial and in kind, and urges them to continue their support;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to periodically keep the General Assembly apprised of the work of the Commission and the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 64/8

Adopted at the 34th plenary meeting, on 2 November 2009, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/64/L.7 and Add.1, sponsored by: Albania, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay

64/8. Report of the International Atomic Energy Agency

The General Assembly,

Having received the report of the International Atomic Energy Agency for 2008,[12]

Taking note of the statement by the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency,[13] in which he provided additional information on the main developments in the activities of the Agency during 2009,

Recognizing the importance of the work of the Agency,

Recognizing also the cooperation between the United Nations and the Agency and the Agreement governing the relationship between the United Nations and the Agency as approved by the General Conference of the Agency on 23 October 1957 and by the General Assembly in the annex to its resolution 1145 (XII) of 14 November 1957,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the International Atomic Energy Agency;[12]

2. *Takes note* of resolutions GC(53)/RES/3 approving the appointment of Mr. Yukiya Amano as the next Director General; GC(53)/RES/4 paying tribute to Dr. Mohamed ElBaradei; GC(53)/RES/10 on measures to strengthen international cooperation in nuclear, radiation, transport and waste safety; GC(53)/RES/11 on nuclear security, including measures to protect against nuclear and radiological terrorism; GC(53)/RES/12 on strengthening the Agency's technical cooperation activities; GC(53)/RES/13 on strengthening the Agency's activities related to nuclear science, technology and

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[11] A/64/370.

[12] International Atomic Energy Agency, *The Annual Report for 2008* (GC(53)/7); transmitted to the members of the General Assembly by a note by the Secretary-General (A/64/257).

[13] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Plenary Meetings*, 33rd meeting (A/64/PV.33), and corrigendum.

applications, comprising GC(53)/RES/13 A on non-power nuclear applications and GC(53)/RES/13 B on nuclear power applications; GC(53)/RES/14 on strengthening the effectiveness and improving the efficiency of the safeguards system and application of the Model Additional Protocol; GC(53)/RES/15 on the implementation of the Agreement between the Agency and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea for the application of safeguards in connection with the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons; GC(53)/RES/16 on the application of Agency safeguards in the Middle East; GC(53)/RES/17 on Israeli nuclear capabilities; GC(53)/RES/18 on personnel, comprising GC(53)/RES/18 A on staffing of the Agency's secretariat and GC(53)/RES/18 B on women in the secretariat; and decisions GC(53)/DEC/11 on the amendment to article XIV.A of the Statute, GC(53)/DEC/12 on the amendment to article VI of the Statute and GC(53)/DEC/13 on prohibition of armed attack or threat of attack against nuclear installations, during operation or under construction, adopted by the General Conference of the Agency at its fifty-third regular session, held from 14 to 18 September 2009;[14]

3. *Expresses its appreciation* for the twelve years of distinguished service by Dr. ElBaradei as Director General of the Agency, during which, in 2005, the Agency and its Director General were jointly awarded the Nobel Peace Prize, and extends its best wishes to Mr. Amano, the incoming Director General of the Agency;

4. *Reaffirms its strong support* for the indispensable role of the Agency in encouraging and assisting the development and practical application of atomic energy for peaceful uses, in technology transfer to developing countries and in nuclear safety, verification and security;

5. *Appeals* to Member States to continue to support the activities of the Agency;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit to the Director General of the Agency the records of the sixty-fourth session of the General Assembly relating to the activities of the Agency.

RESOLUTION 64/9

Adopted at the 34th plenary meeting, on 2 November 2009, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/64/L.9 and Add.1, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Albania, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malta, Mexico, Mongolia, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Zambia

64/9. Report of the International Criminal Court

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 63/21 of 11 November 2008, and all its previous relevant resolutions,

Recalling also that the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court[15] reaffirms the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Reiterating the historic significance of the adoption of the Rome Statute,

Emphasizing that justice, especially transitional justice in conflict and post-conflict societies, is a fundamental building block of sustainable peace,

Convinced that ending impunity is essential if a society in conflict or recovering from conflict is to come to terms with past abuses committed against civilians affected by armed conflict and to prevent such abuses in the future,

Noting with satisfaction the fact that the International Criminal Court has achieved considerable progress in its analyses, investigations and judicial proceedings in various situations and cases which were referred to it by States parties to the Rome Statute and by the Security Council, in accordance with the Rome Statute,

Recalling that effective and comprehensive cooperation and assistance in all aspects of its mandate by States, the United Nations and other international and regional organizations remains essential for the International Criminal Court to carry out its activities,

Expressing its appreciation to the Secretary-General for providing effective and efficient assistance to the International Criminal Court in accordance with the Relationship Agreement between the United Nations and the International Criminal Court ("Relationship Agreement"),[16]

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[14] See International Atomic Energy Agency, *Resolutions and Other Decisions of the General Conference, Fifty-third Regular Session, 14–18 September 2009* (GC(53)/RES/DEC(2009)).

[15] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2187, No. 38544.

[16] Ibid., vol. 2283, No. 1272.

Acknowledging the Relationship Agreement as approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 58/318 of 13 September 2004, including paragraph 3 of the resolution with respect to the payment in full of expenses accruing to the United Nations as a result of the implementation of the Relationship Agreement,[17] which provides a framework for continued cooperation between the International Criminal Court and the United Nations, which could include the facilitation by the United Nations of the Court's field activities, and encouraging the conclusion of supplementary arrangements and agreements, as necessary,

Welcoming the continuous support given by civil society to the International Criminal Court,

Recognizing the role of the International Criminal Court in a multilateral system that aims to end impunity, establish the rule of law, promote and encourage respect for human rights and achieve sustainable peace, in accordance with international law and the purposes and principles of the Charter,

Expressing its appreciation to the International Criminal Court for providing assistance to the Special Court for Sierra Leone,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the International Criminal Court for 2008/09;[18]

2. *Welcomes* the States that have become parties to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court[15] in the past year, and calls upon all States in all regions of the world that are not yet parties to the Rome Statute to consider ratifying or acceding to it without delay;

3. *Welcomes* the States parties as well as States not parties to the Rome Statute that have become parties to the Agreement on the Privileges and Immunities of the International Criminal Court,[19] and calls upon all States that have not yet done so to consider becoming parties to that Agreement;

4. *Calls upon* States parties to the Rome Statute that have not yet done so to adopt national legislation to implement obligations emanating from the Rome Statute and to cooperate with the International Criminal Court in the exercise of its functions, and recalls the provision of technical assistance by States parties in this respect;

5. *Welcomes* the cooperation and assistance provided thus far to the International Criminal Court by States parties as well as States not parties, the United Nations and other international and regional organizations, and calls upon those States that are under an obligation to cooperate to provide such cooperation and assistance in the future, in particular with regard to arrest and surrender, the provision of evidence, the protection and relocation of victims and witnesses and the enforcement of sentences;

6. *Emphasizes* the importance of cooperation with States that are not parties to the Rome Statute;

7. *Invites* regional organizations to consider concluding cooperation agreements with the International Criminal Court;

8. *Recalls* that, by virtue of article 12, paragraph 3, of the Rome Statute, a State which is not a party to the Statute may, by declaration lodged with the Registrar of the International Criminal Court, accept the exercise of jurisdiction by the Court with respect to specific crimes that are mentioned in paragraph 2 of that article;

9. *Encourages* all States parties to take the interests, the need for assistance and the mandate of the International Criminal Court into account when relevant matters are being discussed in the United Nations;

10. *Emphasizes* the importance of the full implementation of the Relationship Agreement between the United Nations and the International Criminal Court,[16] which forms a framework for close cooperation between the two organizations and for consultation on matters of mutual interest pursuant to the provisions of the Relationship Agreement and in conformity with the respective provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and the Rome Statute, as well as the need for the Secretary-General to inform the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session of the expenses incurred and reimbursements received by the United Nations in connection with assistance provided to the International Criminal Court;

11. *Expresses its appreciation* for the work undertaken by the International Criminal Court liaison office to United Nations Headquarters, and encourages the Secretary-General to continue to work closely with that office;

12. *Encourages* States to contribute to the Trust Fund established for the benefit of victims of crimes within the jurisdiction of the International Criminal Court and the families of such victims, and acknowledges with appreciation contributions made to that Trust Fund thus far;

13. *Notes* that the Special Working Group on the Crime of Aggression, which was open to all States on an equal footing, has concluded its mandate and has elaborated proposals for a provision on the crime of aggression, in accordance with article 123 of the Rome Statute;

14. *Notes* that the Assembly of States Parties to the Rome Statute decided at its seventh session, while recalling that, according to article 112, paragraph 6, of the Rome Statute, the Assembly of States Parties shall meet at the seat of the

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[17] Articles 10 and 13 of the Relationship Agreement.

[18] See A/64/356.

[19] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2271, No. 40446.

International Criminal Court or at the United Nations Headquarters, to hold its eighth session in The Hague,[20] looks forward to the eighth session, which is to be held from 18 to 26 November 2009, and requests the Secretary-General to provide the necessary services and facilities in accordance with the Relationship Agreement and resolution 58/318;

15. *Notes* the convening by the Secretary-General of the Review Conference, which will begin on 31 May 2010 in Kampala, and which may provide an opportunity to address issues, in addition to those related to the possible definition of the crime of aggression, that have been identified by States, including States that are not parties to the Rome Statute;

16. *Encourages* the widest possible participation of States in the Assembly of States Parties and particularly in the Review Conference, invites States to contribute to the Trust Fund for the participation of the least developed countries, and acknowledges with appreciation contributions made to that Trust Fund thus far;

17. *Invites* the International Criminal Court to submit, in accordance with article 6 of the Relationship Agreement, a report on its activities for 2009/10, for consideration by the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session.

RESOLUTION 64/10

Adopted at the 39th plenary meeting, on 5 November 2009, by a recorded vote of 114 to 18, with 44 abstentions,* on the basis of draft resolution A/64/L.11 and Add.1, sponsored by: Algeria, Bahrain, Comoros, Djibouti, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen, Palestine

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Comoros, Congo, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Australia, Canada, Czech Republic, Germany, Hungary, Israel, Italy, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Netherlands, Palau, Panama, Poland, Slovakia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United States of America

Abstaining: Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Denmark, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Greece, Iceland, Japan, Kenya, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Monaco, Montenegro, New Zealand, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Samoa, San Marino, Spain, Swaziland, Sweden, Tonga, Uganda, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay

64/10. Follow-up to the report of the United Nations Fact-Finding Mission on the Gaza Conflict

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling the relevant rules and principles of international law, including international humanitarian and human rights law, in particular the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[21] which is applicable to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem,

Recalling also the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[22] and the other human rights covenants, including the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[23] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights[23] and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[24]

Recalling further its relevant resolutions, including resolution ES-10/18 of 16 January 2009 of its tenth emergency special session,

Recalling the relevant Security Council resolutions, including resolution 1860 (2009) of 8 January 2009,

Recalling also the relevant resolutions of the Human Rights Council, including resolution S-12/1 of 16 October 2009,

Expressing its appreciation to the United Nations Fact-Finding Mission on the Gaza Conflict, led by Justice Richard Goldstone, for its comprehensive report,[25]

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[20] See resolution ICC-ASP/7/Res.3 of the Assembly of States Parties to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court.

[21] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

[22] Resolution 217 A (III).

[23] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[24] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[25] A/HRC/12/48.

Affirming the obligation of all parties to respect international humanitarian law and international human rights law,

Emphasizing the importance of the safety and well-being of all civilians, and reaffirming the obligation to ensure the protection of civilians in armed conflict,

Gravely concerned by reports regarding serious human rights violations and grave breaches of international humanitarian law committed during the Israeli military operations in the Gaza Strip that were launched on 27 December 2008, including the findings of the Fact-Finding Mission and of the Board of Inquiry convened by the Secretary-General,[26]

Condemning all targeting of civilians and civilian infrastructure and institutions, including United Nations facilities,

Stressing the need to ensure accountability for all violations of international humanitarian law and international human rights law in order to prevent impunity, ensure justice, deter further violations and promote peace,

Convinced that achieving a just, lasting and comprehensive settlement of the question of Palestine, the core of the Arab-Israeli conflict, is imperative for the attainment of a comprehensive, just and lasting peace and stability in the Middle East,

1. *Endorses* the report of the Human Rights Council on its twelfth special session, held on 15 and 16 October 2009;[27]

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit the report of the United Nations Fact-Finding Mission on the Gaza Conflict[25] to the Security Council;

3. *Calls upon* the Government of Israel to take all appropriate steps, within a period of three months, to undertake investigations that are independent, credible and in conformity with international standards into the serious violations of international humanitarian and international human rights law reported by the Fact-Finding Mission, towards ensuring accountability and justice;

4. *Urges*, in line with the recommendation of the Fact-Finding Mission, the undertaking by the Palestinian side, within a period of three months, of investigations that are independent, credible and in conformity with international standards into the serious violations of international humanitarian and international human rights law reported by the Fact-Finding Mission, towards ensuring accountability and justice;

5. *Recommends* that the Government of Switzerland, in its capacity as depositary of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War,[21] undertake as soon as possible the steps necessary to reconvene a Conference of High Contracting Parties to the Fourth Geneva Convention on measures to enforce the Convention in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and to ensure its respect in accordance with article 1;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly, within a period of three months, on the implementation of the present resolution, with a view to the consideration of further action, if necessary, by the relevant United Nations organs and bodies, including the Security Council;

7. *Decides* to remain seized of the matter.

RESOLUTION 64/11

Adopted at the 40th plenary meeting, on 9 November 2009, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/64/L.8 and Add.1, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Latvia, Lebanon, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam, Yemen

64/11. The situation in Afghanistan

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 63/18 of 10 November 2008 and all its previous relevant resolutions,

Recalling also all relevant Security Council resolutions and statements by the President of the Council on the situation in Afghanistan, in particular resolutions 1659 (2006) of 15 February 2006, 1817 (2008) of 11 June 2008, 1868 (2009) of 23 March 2009 and 1890 (2009) of 8 October 2009, as well as the statements by the President of the Council of 11 July 2008[28] and 15 July 2009,[29]

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[26] A/63/855-S/2009/250.

[27] A/64/53/Add.1.

[28] S/PRST/2008/26; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1 August 2007–31 July 2008*.

[29] S/PRST/2009/21; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1 August 2008–31 July 2009*.

Reaffirming its strong commitment to the sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity and national unity of Afghanistan, and respecting its multicultural, multi-ethnic and historical heritage,

Welcoming the first elections in Afghanistan run entirely under the responsibility of the Afghan authorities with the support of the international community, applauding the courage of the Afghan people for their active engagement in the electoral process and participation in the election despite the security threats and incidents caused by the Taliban, Al-Qaida and other illegal armed groups and those involved in the narcotics trade, welcoming the efforts of the relevant institutions to address irregularities identified by the electoral institutions in Afghanistan and to ensure a credible and legitimate process in accordance with the Afghan electoral law and within the framework of the Afghan Constitution, urging all political actors to respect the rule of law and to continue to take responsibility for the stability and unity of Afghanistan, and stressing the need for the new Government of Afghanistan to build a renewed relationship of trust with its citizens by achieving concrete and visible results,

Reaffirming its continued support for the implementation of the Afghanistan Compact of 31 January 2006,[30] which provides the framework for the partnership between the Government of Afghanistan and the international community, as well as of the Declaration of the International Conference in Support of Afghanistan, held in Paris on 12 June 2008, and recalling in this regard the spirit and the provisions of the Bonn Agreement of 5 December 2001[31] and the Berlin Declaration of 1 April 2004, including the annexes thereto,

Recognizing once again the interconnected nature of the challenges in Afghanistan, reaffirming that sustainable progress on security, governance, human rights, the rule of law and development, as well as on the cross-cutting theme of counter-narcotics, is mutually reinforcing, and welcoming the continuing efforts of the Government of Afghanistan and the international community to address these challenges in a coherent manner,

Reiterating the urgent need to tackle the challenges in Afghanistan, in particular the increased violent criminal and terrorist activities by the Taliban, Al-Qaida, illegal armed groups and those involved in the narcotics trade, in particular in the south and east, the development of Afghan Government institutions, including at the subnational level, the strengthening of the rule of law and democratic processes, the fight against corruption, the acceleration of justice sector reform, the promotion of national reconciliation, without prejudice to the fulfilment of the measures introduced by the Security Council in resolution 1267 (1999) of 15 October 1999 and other relevant resolutions, an Afghan-led transitional justice process, the safe and voluntary return of Afghan refugees and internally displaced persons in an orderly and dignified manner, the promotion and protection of human rights and the advancement of economic and social development,

Condemning in the strongest terms all attacks, including improvised explosive device attacks, suicide attacks and abductions, targeting civilians and Afghan and international forces and their deleterious effect on the stabilization, reconstruction and development efforts in Afghanistan, and condemning further the use by the Taliban, Al-Qaida and other extremist and criminal groups of civilians as human shields,

Deeply concerned about the recent increase in violence in Afghanistan, in particular in the south and east, and recognizing the increased threats posed by the Taliban, Al-Qaida and other extremist and criminal groups, as well as the challenges related to the efforts to address such threats,

Expressing its serious concern about the high number of civilian casualties, noting recent relevant statements by Afghan authorities and high-ranking United Nations officials in this regard, recalling that the Taliban, Al-Qaida and other extremist and criminal groups are responsible for the significant majority of the civilian casualties in Afghanistan, and calling for compliance with international humanitarian and human rights law and for all appropriate measures to be taken to ensure the protection of civilians,

Recognizing additional efforts made by the International Security Assistance Force and other international forces to ensure the protection of the civilian population, and calling upon them to continue to make enhanced efforts in this regard, notably through the continuous review of tactics and procedures and the conduct of after-action reviews and investigations in cooperation with the Government of Afghanistan in cases where civilian casualties have occurred and when the Government finds these joint investigations appropriate,

Noting the importance of the national Government being inclusive and representative of the ethnic diversity of the country and ensuring also the full and equal participation of women,

1. *Stresses* the central and impartial role of the United Nations in promoting peace and stability in Afghanistan, expresses its appreciation and strong support for all efforts of the Secretary-General and his Special Representative in this regard, and welcomes the leading role of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan in the coordination of the international civilian effort, guided by the principle of reinforcing Afghan ownership and leadership;

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[30] S/2006/90, annex.

[31] Agreement on Provisional Arrangements in Afghanistan Pending the Re-establishment of Permanent Government Institutions (see S/2001/1154).

2. *Welcomes* the reports of the Secretary-General[32] and the recommendations contained therein;

3. *Reaffirms* that the Afghanistan Compact, including the annexes thereto,[30] remains the agreed basis for the work of both Afghanistan and the international community, stresses the need for an intensive dialogue with the Government of Afghanistan aimed at renewing the Afghanistan Compact in 2010 in accordance with the increasing ownership and responsibility of the Government, and reiterates in this regard its appreciation for the Afghanistan National Development Strategy;

4. *Welcomes*, in this context, the support expressed by the Secretary-General for the convening of an international conference on Afghanistan in cooperation with the new Government of Afghanistan;

5. *Expresses its strong concern* about the security situation in Afghanistan, stresses the need to continue to address the threat to the security and stability of Afghanistan caused by increased violent and terrorist activity by the Taliban, Al-Qaida and other extremist and criminal groups, including those involved in the narcotics trade, and strongly condemns all acts of violence and intimidation committed in Afghanistan, in particular in the south and east, including suicide attacks;

6. *Expresses deep regret*, in this regard, at the resulting loss of life and physical harm inflicted upon Afghan civilians and civilians of other nationalities, including the personnel of Afghan and international agencies and all other humanitarian workers and the diplomatic corps, as well as the personnel of the Afghan National Security Forces, the International Security Assistance Force and the Operation Enduring Freedom coalition, and pays homage to all those who have lost their lives;

7. *Stresses* the need for the Government of Afghanistan and the international community to continue to work closely together in countering the challenges of terrorist attacks by the Taliban, Al-Qaida and other extremist and criminal groups, which are threatening the democratic process as well as the reconstruction and economic development of Afghanistan, reiterates in this regard its call for the full implementation of measures introduced in relevant Security Council resolutions, in particular resolution 1267 (1999), and calls upon all Member States to deny these groups any form of sanctuary or financial, material and political support;

8. *Notes with concern* that the security situation is causing some organizations to cease or curtail their humanitarian and development work in some parts of Afghanistan;

9. *Stresses* the importance of the provision of sufficient security, welcomes the presence of the International Security Assistance Force throughout Afghanistan, and calls upon Member States to continue contributing personnel, equipment and other resources to the Force and to further develop the provincial reconstruction teams in close coordination with the Government of Afghanistan and the Mission;

10. *Notes*, in the context of the comprehensive approach, the synergies in the objectives of the Mission and of the International Security Assistance Force;

11. *Also notes* that the responsibility for providing security and law and order throughout the country resides with the Government of Afghanistan supported by the International Security Assistance Force and the Operation Enduring Freedom coalition, and recognizes the institutional progress achieved in this respect and the continued coordination between the Force and the coalition;

12. *Stresses* the importance of further extending central government authority, including the presence of Afghan security forces, to all provinces of Afghanistan;

13. *Calls upon* the Government of Afghanistan, with the assistance of the international community, including through the Operation Enduring Freedom coalition and the International Security Assistance Force, in accordance with their respective designated responsibilities, to continue to address the threat to the security and stability of Afghanistan;

14. *Commends* the Afghan National Security Forces, the International Security Assistance Force and the Operation Enduring Freedom coalition for their efforts to improve security conditions in Afghanistan;

15. *Welcomes* the continued development of the Afghan National Army and the Afghan National Police, recognizes the international support provided, calls for intensified Afghan and international efforts to modernize and strengthen both institutions and related Government departments, with particular attention to the Afghan National Police, expresses its appreciation for the assistance provided by international partners, acknowledges the continued deployment of the European Union Police Mission in Afghanistan, the support provided by the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, in particular through the establishment of its training mission in Afghanistan, the planned European Gendarmerie Force contribution to that mission, as well as other bilateral training programmes, encourages further coordination where appropriate, and welcomes the focused district development and in-district reform programmes;

16. *Acknowledges*, in this context, that the Afghan National Army and the Afghan National Police require additional support to enhance their capability and professionalism, including through the provision of increased training and mentoring, more modern equipment and infrastructure, and continued salary support;

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[32] A/62/722-S/2008/159, S/2008/434, A/63/372-S/2008/617, A/63/751-S/2009/135, A/63/892-S/2009/323 and A/64/364-S/2009/475.

17. *Urges* the Afghan authorities, with the support of the international community, to take all possible steps to ensure the safety, security and free movement of all United Nations, development and humanitarian personnel and their safe and unhindered access to all affected populations and to protect the property of the United Nations and of development or humanitarian organizations;

18. *Also urges* the Afghan authorities to make every effort, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 60/123 of 15 December 2005, to bring to justice the perpetrators of attacks;

19. *Stresses* the importance of advancing the full implementation of the programme of disbandment of illegal armed groups, throughout the country, under Afghan ownership, while ensuring coordination and coherence with other relevant efforts, including security sector reform, community development, counter-narcotics, district-level development and Afghan-led initiatives to ensure that entities and individuals do not illegally participate in the political process, in particular in forthcoming elections, in accordance with adopted laws and regulations in Afghanistan, and calls for adequate support in order for the Ministry of the Interior to increasingly assume its leading role in implementing the programme of disbandment of illegal armed groups;

20. *Welcomes* the commitment of the Government of Afghanistan to stand firm on the disbandment of illegal armed groups and to work actively at the national, provincial and local levels to advance this commitment, stresses in this regard the importance of all efforts to create sufficient legal income-earning opportunities, and calls for continued international support for these efforts;

21. *Remains deeply concerned* about the problem of millions of anti-personnel landmines and explosive remnants of war, which constitute a great danger to the population and a major obstacle to the resumption of economic activities and to recovery and reconstruction efforts;

22. *Welcomes* the progress achieved through the Mine Action Programme for Afghanistan, supports the Government of Afghanistan in its efforts to meet its responsibilities under the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction,[33] to cooperate fully with the Mine Action Programme coordinated by the United Nations and to eliminate all known or new stocks of anti-personnel landmines, and acknowledges the need for continued assistance from the international community in this regard;

23. *Stresses* that regional cooperation constitutes an effective means to promote security and development in Afghanistan, encourages in this regard improved relations and closer cooperation between Afghanistan and its neighbours, and welcomes in this context the Third Regional Economic Cooperation Conference on Afghanistan, held in Islamabad on 13 and 14 May 2009, as well as efforts made by regional organizations;

24. *Pledges its continued support*, after the successful completion of the political transition, to the Government and people of Afghanistan as they rebuild their country, strengthen the foundations of a constitutional democracy and resume their rightful place in the community of nations;

25. *Recalls* the constitutional guarantee of human rights and fundamental freedoms for all Afghans as a significant political achievement, and stresses the need to fully implement the human rights provisions of the Afghan Constitution, in accordance with obligations under applicable international law, including those regarding the full enjoyment by women and children of their human rights;

26. *Calls for* full respect of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all, without discrimination of any kind, including on the basis of gender, ethnicity or religion, in accordance with obligations under the Afghan Constitution and international law;

27. *Acknowledges and encourages* the efforts made by the Government of Afghanistan in this respect, and expresses its concern at the harmful consequences of violent and terrorist activities by the Taliban, Al-Qaida and other extremist and criminal groups for the enjoyment of human rights and for the capacity of the Government to ensure human rights and fundamental freedoms for all Afghans;

28. *Recalls* Security Council resolutions 1674 (2006) of 28 April 2006 and 1738 (2006) of 23 December 2006, as well as the statement by the President of the Council of 14 January 2009,[34] on the protection of civilians in armed conflict, expresses its concern at the high number of civilian casualties, including women and children, notes that the Taliban, Al-Qaida and other extremist and criminal groups are responsible for the significant majority of civilian casualties, reiterates its call for all feasible steps to be taken to ensure the protection of civilians, and calls for additional appropriate steps in this regard and for full compliance with international humanitarian and human rights law;

29. *Recognizes* the importance of holding free, fair, credible, secure and inclusive elections as crucial steps towards consolidating democracy for all Afghans, as identified in the Afghanistan Compact, stresses the responsibility of the Afghan authorities in this regard and the need for timely and orderly preparation of the forthcoming elections, calls upon the

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[33] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2056, No. 35597.

[34] S/PRST/2009/1; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1 August 2008–31 July 2009*.

international community to continue to provide financial and technical assistance, recalls the leading role of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan in coordinating these efforts, encourages international partners, including the European Union and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, to send electoral observation missions and support teams at the request of the Government of Afghanistan, and calls upon the international community to continue to provide support to the Government to ensure the security of the elections;

30. *Welcomes* the steps taken by the Government of Afghanistan on justice sector reform, stresses the need for further accelerated progress towards the establishment of a fair, transparent and effective justice system as an important step towards the goals of strengthening the Government, providing security and ensuring the rule of law throughout the country, and urges the international community to continue to support the efforts of the Government in these areas in a coordinated manner;

31. *Urges* all concerned bodies, in this regard, to implement the National Justice Programme in a timely manner, and stresses the importance of improving security as well as legal rights and services for the Afghan people;

32. *Acknowledges* the progress made by the Government of Afghanistan and the international community towards devoting adequate resources to the reconstruction and reform of the prison sector in order to improve respect for the rule of law and human rights therein, while reducing physical and mental health risks to inmates;

33. *Emphasizes* the importance of ensuring access for relevant organizations to all prisons in Afghanistan, and calls for full respect for relevant international law, including humanitarian law and human rights law, where applicable, including with regard to minors in detention;

34. *Notes with concern* reports of continued violations of human rights and international humanitarian law, including violent or discriminatory practices, violations committed against persons belonging to ethnic and religious minorities, as well as violations committed against women and children, in particular girls, stresses the need to promote tolerance and religious freedom, as guaranteed by the Afghan Constitution, emphasizes the necessity of investigating allegations of current and past violations, and stresses the importance of facilitating the provision of efficient and effective remedies to the victims and of bringing the perpetrators to justice in accordance with national and international law;

35. *Commends* the Government of Afghanistan for the submission of its first universal periodic review report to the Human Rights Council in 2009, and encourages the timely implementation of the recommendations addressed therein;

36. *Stresses* the need to ensure respect for the right to freedom of expression and the right to freedom of thought, conscience or belief, as enshrined in the Afghan Constitution, welcomes in this regard the new mass media law as important progress, while noting with concern the growing intimidation and violence targeting Afghan journalists and challenges to the independence of the media, condemns cases of the abduction and even killing of journalists by terrorist as well as extremist and criminal groups, and urges that harassment and attacks on journalists be investigated by the Afghan authorities and that those responsible be brought to justice;

37. *Reiterates* the important role of the Afghan Independent Human Rights Commission in the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms, stresses the need to expand its range of operation in all parts of Afghanistan in accordance with the Afghan Constitution, encourages the Government of Afghanistan to take increasing responsibility for the core funding of the Commission, and calls upon the international community for continued support in this regard;

38. *Calls for* the full implementation by the Government of Afghanistan of the Action Plan on Peace, Justice and Reconciliation, encourages the implementation of Government-led reintegration, reconciliation and transitional justice processes aimed at reintegrating those ready to renounce violence, denounce terrorism, accept the Afghan Constitution and commit themselves to working constructively for peace, stability and development, within the framework of the Constitution, without prejudice to the implementation of measures introduced by the Security Council in resolution 1267 (1999), and recalls other relevant resolutions in this regard;

39. *Recalls* Security Council resolutions 1325 (2000) of 31 October 2000, 1820 (2008) of 19 June 2008, 1888 (2009) of 30 September 2009 and 1889 (2009) of 5 October 2009 on women and peace and security, commends the efforts of the Government of Afghanistan to mainstream gender issues and to protect and promote the equal rights of women and men as guaranteed, inter alia, by virtue of its ratification of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[35] and by the Afghan Constitution, and reiterates the continued importance of the full and equal participation of women in all spheres of Afghan life and of equality before the law and equal access to legal counsel without discrimination of any kind;

40. *Reiterates*, in view of legislation recently adopted, the continued importance of upholding international obligations for the advancement of women's rights, as enshrined in the Afghan Constitution, welcomes the presidential decree regarding the law on the elimination of violence against women and calls for its timely implementation, and appreciates the

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[35] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

preparation by the Government of Afghanistan for reporting to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women in 2010;

41. *Strongly condemns* incidents of discrimination and violence against women and girls, in particular if directed against women activists and women prominent in public life, wherever they occur in Afghanistan, including killings, maimings and "honour killings" in certain parts of the country;

42. *Welcomes* the creation of a special fund for the protection of women at risk, set up by the United Nations Development Fund for Women with the support of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees;

43. *Also welcomes* the implementation of the National Action Plan for Women in Afghanistan and the significant efforts by the Government of Afghanistan to counter discrimination, urges the Government to actively involve all elements of Afghan society, in particular women, in the development and implementation of relief, rehabilitation, recovery and reconstruction programmes, and encourages the collection and use of statistical data on a sex-disaggregated basis to provide information on gender-based violence and to accurately track the progress of the full integration of women into the political, economic and social life of Afghanistan;

44. *Further welcomes* the achievements and stresses the need for continued progress in gender equality, in accordance with obligations under international law, and in the empowerment of women in Afghan politics, which will help to consolidate durable peace and national stability in Afghanistan, while noting the need to promote the empowerment of women also at the subnational level, to facilitate the access of women to employment and to ensure female literacy, professional training and entrepreneurship, and calls upon the international community to continue to support Afghan institutions in this regard;

45. *Stresses* the need to ensure respect for the human rights and fundamental freedoms of children in Afghanistan, welcomes the submission of the initial report of Afghanistan to the Committee on the Rights of the Child, and recalls the need for the full implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child[36] and the two Optional Protocols thereto[37] by all States parties, as well as of Security Council resolutions 1612 (2005) of 26 July 2005 and 1882 (2009) of 4 August 2009 on children and armed conflict;

46. *Expresses its concern*, in this regard, about the ongoing recruitment and use of children by illegal armed and terrorist groups in Afghanistan, as described in the report of the Secretary-General on children and armed conflict in Afghanistan of 10 November 2008,[38] stresses the importance of ending the use of children contrary to international law, and welcomes the progress achieved by and the firm commitment of the Government of Afghanistan in this regard, including the strong condemnation of any exploitation of children;

47. *Welcomes* the adoption by the Government of Afghanistan of the National Plan of Action on Combating Child Trafficking, also welcomes initiatives to pass legislation on human trafficking, guided by the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[39] and stresses the importance of considering becoming a party to the Protocol;

48. *Urges* the Government of Afghanistan to continue to effectively reform the public administration sector in order to implement the rule of law and to ensure good governance and accountability at both the national and subnational levels, and stresses the importance of meeting the respective benchmarks of the Afghanistan Compact, with the support of the international community;

49. *Welcomes* the appointment of officials to the Senior Appointments Panel, and encourages the Government of Afghanistan to make active use of this panel, as agreed upon in the Afghanistan Compact, thus enhancing efficiency and transparency in the appointment of senior officials;

50. *Encourages* the international community, including all donor nations, to assist the Government of Afghanistan in making capacity-building and human resources development a cross-cutting priority and to align with efforts by the Government, including the work of the Independent Administrative Reform and Civil Service Commission, to build administrative capacity at the national and subnational levels;

51. *Welcomes* the ratification by Afghanistan of the United Nations Convention against Corruption,[40] calls for further progress by the Government of Afghanistan in pursuing its efforts to establish a more effective, accountable and transparent administration at national, provincial and local levels of Government leading the fight against corruption in accordance with the Afghanistan Compact, and notes with deep concern the effects of corruption with regard to security, good governance, the combating of the narcotics industry and economic development;

52. *Applauds* recent efforts to improve subnational governance and administration in Afghanistan through the Independent Directorate of Local Governance, underscores the importance of more visible, accountable and capable

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[36] Ibid., vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[37] Ibid., vols. 2171 and 2173, No. 27531.

[38] S/2008/695.

[39] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2237, No. 39574.

[40] Ibid., vol. 2349, No. 42146.

subnational institutions and actors in reducing the political space for insurgents, calls upon Afghan authorities and the international community to actively support the work of the Directorate, strongly encourages the Government of Afghanistan to approve and implement the Subnational Governance Policy to strengthen the roles of subnational institutions and allocate more resources and authority to provincial government, and looks forward to the development of a robust implementation plan;

53. *Urges* the Government of Afghanistan to address, with the assistance of the international community, the question of claims for land property through a comprehensive land titling programme, including formal registration of all property and improved security of property rights, and welcomes the steps already taken by the Government in this regard;

54. *Welcomes* the Afghanistan National Development Strategy and the first annual progress report thereon, as well as further efforts by the Government of Afghanistan to achieve the Millennium Development Goals;

55. *Also welcomes* the continuing and growing ownership of rehabilitation, reconstruction and development efforts by the Government of Afghanistan, and emphasizes the crucial need to achieve ownership in all fields of governance and to improve institutional capabilities, including at the subnational level, in order to use aid more effectively;

56. *Stresses* the need for a continued strong international commitment to humanitarian assistance and for programmes, under the ownership of the Government of Afghanistan, of recovery, rehabilitation, reconstruction and development, while expressing its appreciation to the United Nations system and to all States and international and non-governmental organizations whose international and local staff continue to respond positively to the humanitarian, transition and development needs of Afghanistan despite increasing security concerns and difficulties of access in certain areas;

57. *Expresses its appreciation* for the humanitarian and development assistance work of the international community in the reconstruction and development of Afghanistan, recognizes the necessity for further improvement in the living conditions of the Afghan people, and emphasizes the need to strengthen and support the capacity of the Government of Afghanistan to deliver basic social services, in particular education and public health services, and to promote development;

58. *Urges* the Government of Afghanistan to enhance efforts to reform key service delivery sectors, such as energy and drinking water supply, as preconditions for progress in social and economic development, commends the Government for its efforts to date to increase revenues and taxes collected to reach fiscal sustainability, and urges continued commitment to revenue generation;

59. *Expresses its appreciation* for the work of the provincial reconstruction teams;

60. *Urgently appeals* to all States, the United Nations system and international and non-governmental organizations to continue to provide, in close coordination with the Government of Afghanistan and in accordance with its national development strategy, all possible and necessary humanitarian, recovery, reconstruction, development, financial, educational, technical and material assistance for Afghanistan, and recalls in this regard the leading role of the Mission in coordinating international efforts;

61. *Urges* the international community, in accordance with the Afghanistan Compact, to increase the proportion of donor assistance channelled directly to the core budget, as agreed bilaterally between the Government of Afghanistan and each donor, as well as through other more predictable core budget funding modalities in which the Government participates, such as the Afghanistan Reconstruction Trust Fund and the Law and Order Trust Fund;

62. *Invites* all States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations providing assistance to Afghanistan to focus on institution-building in a coordinated manner and to ensure that such work complements and contributes to the development of an economy characterized by sound macroeconomic policies, the development of a financial sector that provides services, inter alia, to microenterprises, small and medium-sized enterprises and households, transparent business regulations and accountability;

63. *Encourages* the international community and the corporate sector to support the Afghan economy as a measure for long-term stability and to explore possibilities for increased investments and enhanced local procurements;

64. *Urgently encourages* all States as well as intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to expand agricultural cooperation with Afghanistan, within the National Agricultural Development Framework and in line with the Afghanistan National Development Strategy;

65. *Welcomes* all efforts to increase regional economic cooperation, and recognizes the important role of the Economic Cooperation Organization and the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation in promoting Afghanistan's development;

66. *Calls for* the strengthening of the process of regional economic cooperation, including measures to facilitate regional trade and transit, increase foreign investments and develop infrastructure, including energy supply and integrated border management, noting Afghanistan's historical role as a land bridge in Asia;

67. *Reiterates* the necessity of providing Afghan children, especially Afghan girls, with educational and health facilities in all parts of the country, welcomes progress achieved in the sector of public education, recalls the National Education Strategic Plan as a promising basis for further achievements, and reiterates further the need to provide vocational training for adolescents;

68. *Recognizes* the special needs of girls, strongly condemns terrorist attacks on educational facilities, especially on those for Afghan girls, and encourages the Government of Afghanistan, with the assistance of the international community, to expand those facilities, train professional staff and promote full and equal access to them by all members of Afghan society, including in remote areas;

69. *Welcomes* the continuous return of refugees and internally displaced persons, in a voluntary and sustainable manner, while noting with concern that conditions in parts of Afghanistan are not yet conducive to safe and sustainable return to some places of origin;

70. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Governments that continue to host Afghan refugees, acknowledging the huge burden they have so far shouldered in this regard, and reminds the host countries and the international community of their obligations under international refugee law with respect to the protection of refugees, the principle of voluntary return and the right to seek asylum and to ensure unhindered access for humanitarian relief agencies in order to provide protection and assistance to the refugees;

71. *Urges* the Government of Afghanistan, acting with the support of the international community, to continue to strengthen its efforts to create the conditions for the voluntary, safe, dignified and sustainable return and reintegration of the remaining Afghan refugees and internally displaced persons;

72. *Notes*, in this regard, the continued constructive work between the countries of the region, as well as the tripartite agreements between the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the Government of Afghanistan and the Governments of countries hosting refugees from Afghanistan, in particular Pakistan and the Islamic Republic of Iran;

73. *Calls for* the provision of continued international assistance to the large numbers of Afghan refugees and internally displaced persons to facilitate their voluntary, safe, dignified and orderly return and sustainable reintegration into society so as to contribute to the stability of the entire country;

74. *Recognizes* that underdevelopment and lack of capacity increase the vulnerability of Afghanistan to natural disasters and harsh climate conditions, and in this regard urges the Government of Afghanistan, with the support of the international community, to increase its efforts aimed at strengthening disaster risk reduction at the national and subnational levels and at modernizing the agricultural sector and strengthening its agricultural production, thereby reducing Afghanistan's vulnerability to adverse external conditions such as drought, flooding and other natural disasters;

75. *Commends* the swift and successful relief efforts by the Government of Afghanistan and donors during last year's food crisis, but continues to express its concern at the overall humanitarian situation, stresses the continued need for food assistance, and calls for continued international support for and the early fulfilment, before the approaching winter, of the funding target of the Afghanistan Humanitarian Action Plan;

76. *Welcomes* the growing number of poppy-free provinces and other continued positive developments in fighting drug production in Afghanistan, as reported by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in the *Afghanistan Opium Survey 2009*, released on 2 September 2009,[41] but reiterates its deep concern about the continued cultivation and production of narcotic drugs in Afghanistan, mainly concentrated in areas where the Taliban, Al-Qaida and other extremist and criminal groups are particularly active, as well as the ongoing drug trafficking, and stresses the need for more coordinated and resolute efforts by the Government of Afghanistan, supported by the international community, to fight this menace;

77. *Stresses* the importance of a comprehensive approach in addressing the drug problem of Afghanistan, which, to be effective, must be integrated into the wider context of efforts carried out in the areas of security, governance, the rule of law and human rights, and economic and social development, and stresses that the development of alternative livelihood programmes is of key importance in the success of the counter-narcotics efforts in Afghanistan;

78. *Notes with great concern* the increasingly strong nexus between the drug trade and terrorist activities by the Taliban, Al-Qaida and other extremist and criminal groups, which pose a serious threat to security, the rule of law and development in Afghanistan, and stresses the importance of the implementation of all relevant Security Council resolutions in this regard, including resolution 1735 (2006) of 22 December 2006;

79. *Calls upon* all Member States to further intensify their efforts to reduce the demand for drugs in their respective countries and globally in order to contribute to the sustainability of the elimination of illicit cultivation in Afghanistan;

80. *Stresses* the need to prevent trafficking in and diversion of chemical precursors used in the illicit manufacturing of drugs, including heroin for illicit use, in Afghanistan, and calls for the full implementation of Security Council resolution 1817 (2008) in this regard;

81. *Urges* the Government of Afghanistan, supported by the international community, to work to mainstream counter-narcotics throughout all the national programmes and to ensure that counter-narcotics is a fundamental part of the comprehensive approach, as well as to increase its efforts against opium cultivation and drug trafficking in accordance with the balanced eight-pillar plan of the Afghan National Drug Control Strategy;[42]

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[41] Available from www.unodc.org/unodc/en/crop-monitoring/index.html.

[42] S/2006/106, annex.

82. *Commends* the efforts of the Government of Afghanistan in this regard, as well as the efforts to implement the National Drug Control Strategy, including the Prioritized Implementation Plan, urges the Government and the international community to take decisive action, in particular to stop the processing of and trade in drugs, by pursuing the concrete steps set out in the Strategy and in the Afghanistan Compact and through initiatives such as the Good Performers Initiative established to provide incentives for governors to reduce cultivation in their provinces, and encourages the Afghan authorities to work at the provincial level on elaborating counter-narcotics implementation plans;

83. *Calls upon* the international community to assist the Government of Afghanistan in implementing its National Drug Control Strategy, aimed at eliminating the cultivation, production and consumption of and trafficking in illicit drugs, including through increased support for Afghan law enforcement and criminal justice agencies, agricultural and rural development, demand reduction, the elimination of illicit crops, increased public awareness, the building of the capacity of drug control institutions and care and treatment centres for drug addicts and the creation of alternative livelihoods for farmers, and reiterates its call upon the international community to channel counter-narcotics funding through the Government to the extent possible;

84. *Urges* the Government of Afghanistan, assisted by the international community, to promote the development of sustainable livelihoods in the formal production sector, as well as in other sectors, and to improve access to reasonable and sustainable credit and financing in rural areas, thus improving substantially the lives, health and security of the people, particularly in rural areas;

85. *Supports* the fight against the illicit trafficking in drugs from and precursors to Afghanistan and neighbouring States and countries along trafficking routes, including increased cooperation among them in strengthening anti-narcotic controls and the monitoring of the international trade in chemical precursors, and takes note of the establishment of the Central Asian Regional Information and Coordination Centre in Almaty on 22 March 2009;

86. *Calls upon* States to strengthen international and regional cooperation to counter the increasing threat to the international community posed by the illicit production of drugs in Afghanistan and trafficking in drugs, recognizes the progress achieved by relevant initiatives within the framework of the Paris Pact, the Tehran agreement on a triangular initiative by Afghanistan, the Islamic Republic of Iran and Pakistan and the third Trilateral Summit of Afghanistan, Pakistan and Turkey, and stresses the importance of further progress in the implementation of these initiatives;

87. *Pays homage* to all those who have innocently lost their lives in the fight against drug traffickers, in particular members of the security forces of Afghanistan and its neighbours;

88. *Welcomes* initiatives to promote border management cooperation in drug control, including the financial dimension, between Afghanistan and its neighbours, and emphasizes the importance of pursuing such cooperation, especially through bilateral arrangements and those launched by the Collective Security Treaty Organization;

89. *Stresses* the importance of further, effective cooperative support by relevant international and regional actors, including the United Nations and the International Security Assistance Force, within its designated responsibilities, to Afghan-led sustained efforts to address the threat posed by the illicit production of and trafficking in drugs, and welcomes in this regard the regional programme on Afghanistan and neighbouring countries of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

90. *Expresses its appreciation* for the work of the Mission as mandated by the Security Council in resolution 1868 (2009), and stresses the continued importance of the central and impartial role played by the Mission in promoting and coordinating a more coherent international engagement;

91. *Welcomes* the ongoing extension of the presence of the Mission into additional provinces, which thus ensures that the United Nations fulfils its essential coordinating role, and encourages the Mission to consolidate its presence and to continue its expansion throughout the country, in particular in the south, security conditions permitting;

92. *Stresses* the need to ensure that the Mission is adequately resourced to fulfil its mandate;

93. *Acknowledges* the central role played by the Joint Coordination and Monitoring Board in facilitating and monitoring the implementation of the Afghanistan Compact, stresses that the role of the Board is to support Afghanistan by, inter alia, coordinating international assistance and reconstruction programmes, and welcomes further efforts to provide appropriate guidance and promote a more coherent international engagement;

94. *Commends* the continuing efforts of the signatories of the Kabul Declaration on Good-neighbourly Relations of 22 December 2002[43] to implement their commitments under the Declaration, and furthermore calls upon all other States to respect and support the implementation of those provisions and to promote regional stability;

95. *Welcomes and encourages* further efforts by the Government of Afghanistan and its neighbouring partners to foster trust and cooperation with each other, and looks forward,

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[43] S/2002/1416, annex.

where appropriate, to increasing cooperation between Afghanistan, all its neighbouring and regional partners, and regional organizations against the Taliban, Al-Qaida and other extremist and criminal groups and in promoting peace and prosperity in Afghanistan, in the region and beyond;

96. *Welcomes* ongoing efforts by the Government of Afghanistan and its neighbouring and regional partners to foster trust and cooperation with each other, as well as recent cooperation initiatives developed by the countries concerned and regional organizations, including the ministerial meeting in La Celle-Saint-Cloud, France, in December 2008, the trilateral summits of Afghanistan, Pakistan and Turkey in Ankara in April 2009, of Afghanistan, Pakistan and the United States of America in May 2009, of Afghanistan, Pakistan and the Islamic Republic of Iran in May 2009 and of Afghanistan, Pakistan and Tajikistan in June 2009 and the quadrilateral summit of Afghanistan, Pakistan, Tajikistan and the Russian Federation, also in June 2009, as well as efforts made by the Shanghai Cooperation Organization and initiatives within the framework of the Dubai Process to promote the country's stability and development; these efforts are essential to foster cooperation in the economic and development sectors as a means to achieve the full integration of Afghanistan into the regional and global economy;

97. *Appreciates* the continued commitment of the international community to supporting the stability and development of Afghanistan, recalls the additional international support as pledged, welcomes the special conference on Afghanistan held under the aegis of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization in Moscow on 27 March 2009 and the International Conference on Afghanistan held in The Hague on 31 March 2009, and welcomes the relations between the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and Afghanistan;

98. *Welcomes* the outreach session of the meeting of Group of Eight Ministers for Foreign Affairs held in Trieste, Italy, on 26 and 27 June 2009, and encourages the Group of Eight countries to continue to stimulate and support cooperation between Afghanistan and its neighbours through mutual consultation and agreement, including on development projects in areas such as repatriation of refugees, border management and economic development;

99. *Appreciates* the efforts of the members of the Tripartite Commission, namely Afghanistan, Pakistan and the International Security Assistance Force, to continue to address cross-border activities and to broaden their cooperation;

100. *Emphasizes* the need to maintain, strengthen and review civil-military relations among international actors, as appropriate, at all levels in order to ensure complementarity of action based on the different mandates and comparative advantages of the humanitarian, development, law enforcement and military actors present in Afghanistan, bearing in mind the central and impartial coordinating role of the United Nations;

101. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly every three months during its sixty-fourth session on developments in Afghanistan, as well as on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution;

102. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled "The situation in Afghanistan".

RESOLUTION 64/12

Adopted at the 41st plenary meeting, on 9 November 2009, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/64/L.12 and Add.1, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Bahrain, Belarus, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cape Verde, Congo, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Egypt, Estonia, Finland, France, Gabon, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mongolia, Morocco, Netherlands, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

64/12. Support by the United Nations system of the efforts of Governments to promote and consolidate new or restored democracies

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 49/30 of 7 December 1994, 50/133 of 20 December 1995, 51/31 of 6 December 1996, 52/18 of 21 November 1997, 53/31 of 23 November 1998, 54/36 of 29 November 1999, 55/43 of 27 November 2000, 56/96 of 14 December 2001, 56/269 of 27 March 2002, 58/13 of 17 November 2003, 58/281 of 9 February 2004, 60/253 of 2 May 2006, 61/226 of 22 December 2006 and 62/7 of 8 November 2007,

Recalling also the United Nations Millennium Declaration adopted by Heads of State and Government on 8 September 2000,[44] in particular paragraphs 6 and 24 thereof, and the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[45]

Recalling further the declarations and plans of action of the six international conferences of new or restored democracies adopted in Manila in 1988,[46] Managua in 1994,[47]

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[44] See resolution 55/2.

[45] See resolution 60/1.

[46] A/43/538, annex.

[47] A/49/713, annexes I and II.

Bucharest in 1997,[48] Cotonou in 2000,[49] Ulaanbaatar in 2003[50] and Doha in 2006,[51]

Reaffirming the Charter of the United Nations, including the principles and purposes contained therein, and recognizing that human rights, the rule of law and democracy are interlinked and mutually reinforcing and that they belong to the universal and indivisible core values and principles of the United Nations,

Stressing that democracy, development and respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms are interdependent and mutually reinforcing,

Reaffirming that democracy is a universal value based on the freely expressed will of people to determine their own political, economic, social and cultural systems and their full participation in all aspects of their lives,

Reaffirming also that, while democracies share common features, there is no single model of democracy and that democracy does not belong to any country or region, and reaffirming further the necessity of due respect for sovereignty, the right to self-determination and territorial integrity,

Bearing in mind that the activities of the United Nations carried out in support of efforts of Governments to promote and consolidate democracy are undertaken in accordance with the Charter and only at the specific request of the Member States concerned,

Mindful of the central role of parliaments and the active involvement of civil society organizations and media and their interaction with Governments at all levels in promoting democracy, freedom, equality, participation, development, respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms and the rule of law, and welcoming in this regard the expanded tripartite participation in the Sixth International Conference of New or Restored Democracies, hosted by the Government of Qatar in Doha from 29 October to 1 November 2006, which focused on capacity-building, democracy and social progress,

Noting the role of the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance in support of the New or Restored Democracies Movement,

Noting also the achievement of the Sixth International Conference, under the chairmanship of Qatar, of the establishment of the International Day of Democracy on 15 September, as noted in General Assembly resolution 62/7, which was celebrated for the first time in 2008,

Convinced of the need to continue to encourage and promote democratization, development and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms and of the importance of action-oriented follow-up to the Sixth International Conference,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General;[52]

2. *Welcomes* the work carried out as part of the follow-up mechanisms of the Sixth International Conference of New or Restored Democracies and the efforts of the Chair of the Conference to make the Conference and the follow-up thereto more effective and efficient, and in this regard takes note of the outcomes of the four meetings of the Advisory Board of the Conference, particularly the implementation of the programme of work of the Conference for 2007–2009 and the convening of the ministerial meeting of the New or Restored Democracies Movement, on the sidelines of the sixty-fourth session of the General Assembly, at which various initiatives on the future sustainability of the Movement were considered;

3. *Invites* Member States, the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, other intergovernmental organizations, national parliaments, including in collaboration with the Inter-Parliamentary Union and other parliamentary organizations, and non-governmental organizations to contribute actively to the follow-up to the Sixth International Conference and to make additional efforts to identify possible steps in support of the efforts of Governments to promote and consolidate new or restored democracies, including through those steps set out in the Doha Declaration,[51] and to inform the Secretary-General of the actions taken;

4. *Encourages* Governments to strengthen national programmes devoted to the promotion and consolidation of democracy, including through increased bilateral, regional and international cooperation, taking into account innovative approaches and best practices;

5. *Invites* all Member States, organizations of the United Nations system, regional and intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and individuals to continue to commemorate the International Day of Democracy in an appropriate manner that contributes to raising public awareness;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to take necessary measures, within existing resources, for the observance by the United Nations of the International Day of Democracy;

7. *Urges* the Secretary-General to continue to improve the capacity of the Organization to respond effectively to the requests of Member States by providing sustainable assistance for building national capacity and adequate support for their efforts to achieve the goals of good

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[48] A/52/334, annex, appendix.

[49] A/55/889, annex.

[50] A/58/387, annexes I and II.

[51] A/61/581, annex.

[52] A/64/372.

governance and democratization, including through the activities of the United Nations Democracy Fund;

8. *Also urges* the Secretary-General to continue efforts to improve coherence and coordination among United Nations initiatives in the area of democracy assistance, including interactions with all stakeholders, in order to ensure that democracy assistance is more effectively integrated into the work of the Organization;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to examine options for strengthening the support provided by the United Nations system for the efforts of Member States to consolidate democracy and achieve good governance, including the provision of support to the Chair of the Sixth International Conference in his efforts to make the Conference and the follow-up thereto more effective and efficient;

10. *Welcomes* the decision of the Government of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to host the Seventh International Conference of New or Restored Democracies in 2010;

11. *Invites* the Secretary-General, Member States, the relevant specialized agencies and bodies of the United Nations system and other intergovernmental organizations to collaborate in the holding of the Seventh International Conference;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution, including therein the information requested in paragraph 3 above;

13. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-sixth session the item entitled "Support by the United Nations system of the efforts of Governments to promote and consolidate new or restored democracies".

RESOLUTION 64/13

Adopted at the 42nd plenary meeting, on 10 November 2009, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/64/L.13 and Add.1, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

64/13. Nelson Mandela International Day

The General Assembly,

Recognizing the long history of Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela's leading role in and support for Africa's struggle for liberation and Africa's unity, and his outstanding contribution to the creation of a non-racial, non-sexist, democratic South Africa,

Recognizing also Nelson Mandela's values and his dedication to the service of humanity, as a humanitarian, in the fields of conflict resolution, race relations, promotion and protection of human rights, reconciliation, gender equality and the rights of children and other vulnerable groups, as well as the upliftment of poor and underdeveloped communities,

Acknowledging Nelson Mandela's contribution to the struggle for democracy internationally and the promotion of a culture of peace throughout the world,

Welcoming the international campaign initiated by the Nelson Mandela Foundation and related organizations to each year observe 18 July, his birthday, as Mandela Day,

Welcoming also the statements of support by the Secretary-General and the President of the General Assembly at its sixty-third session, on the occasion of the celebration of Mandela Day on 18 July 2009,

Recalling the worldwide participation and celebration of the inaugural Mandela Day on 18 July 2009,

Recalling also the endorsement by the Heads of State and Government of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries of the observance of 18 July as Nelson Mandela International Day and the request that a resolution to this effect be adopted by the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session,[53]

1. *Decides* to designate 18 July as Nelson Mandela International Day, to be observed each year beginning in 2010;

2. *Invites* all Member States, organizations of the United Nations system and other international organizations, as

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[53] A/63/968-S/2009/516.

well as civil society, including non-governmental organizations and individuals, to observe Nelson Mandela International Day in an appropriate manner;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary measures, within existing resources, for the observance by the United Nations of Nelson Mandela International Day;

4. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to keep the General Assembly informed at its sixty-fifth session of the implementation of the present resolution within the United Nations system, and thereafter to keep the Assembly informed on an annual basis concerning the observance of Nelson Mandela International Day;

5. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of all Member States and United Nations organizations.

RESOLUTION 64/14

Adopted at the 42nd plenary meeting, on 10 November 2009, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/64/L.14 and Add.1, as orally revised, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, Gabon, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Latvia, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Slovenia, Somalia, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Viet Nam, Yemen

64/14. The Alliance of Civilizations

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the solemn commitment of all States to fulfil their obligations to promote universal respect for, and observance and protection of, all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[54] and other instruments relating to international law and human rights, and reaffirming also the universal nature of these rights and freedoms,

Recalling the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[55] in which the Heads of State and Government welcomed the Alliance of Civilizations initiative announced by the Secretary-General on 14 July 2005 and committed themselves to promoting a culture of peace and dialogue at the local, national, regional and international levels,

Acknowledging the diversity of the world and the fact that all cultures and civilizations contribute to the enrichment of humankind, recognizing the importance of respect and understanding for religious and cultural diversity throughout the world, and encouraging tolerance, respect, dialogue and cooperation among different cultures, civilizations and peoples,

Recognizing the importance of intercultural and interreligious and intrareligious dialogue in promoting tolerance in matters related to religion or belief, and emphasizing the important role of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in this regard,

1. *Welcomes* the efforts made by the Secretary-General and his High Representative for the Alliance of Civilizations to promote greater understanding and respect among civilizations, cultures and religions, and encourages the Alliance to continue its work through a number of practical projects in the areas of youth, education, media and migrations, in collaboration with Governments, international organizations, foundations and civil society groups, as well as media and corporate leaders;

2. *Acknowledges* the results of the First Forum of the Alliance of Civilizations, held in Madrid on 15 and 16 January 2008 and of the Second Forum of the Alliance, held in Istanbul, Turkey, on 6 and 7 April 2009;

3. *Encourages* Governments, international organizations and representatives of civil society to participate in the Third Forum of the Alliance of Civilizations, which will be held in Brazil in 2010, as well as in the upcoming Forums of the Alliance, which will be hosted by Qatar in 2011 and Austria in 2012;

4. *Welcomes* the first and second reports of the High Representative to the Secretary-General on the activities of the Alliance of Civilizations,[56] including the projects and programmes that have been launched at the Forums of the Alliance;

5. *Expresses its continuing support* for the work of the Alliance of Civilizations, recognizing the importance of its Group of Friends in this regard as well as the relevance of the national plans for the Alliance that have been approved by its member States thus far and of the activities related to the Alliance that are being developed by the international organizations that are members of the Group of Friends.

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[54] Resolution 217 A (III).

[55] See resolution 60/1.

[56] A/63/336 and A/63/914.

RESOLUTION 64/15

Adopted at the 47th plenary meeting, on 16 November 2009, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/64/L.10 and Add.1, as orally revised, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Albania, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Serbia, Singapore, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Turkey, Ukraine, United States of America, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

64/15. Permanent memorial to and remembrance of the victims of slavery and the transatlantic slave trade

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 61/19 of 28 November 2006, entitled "Commemoration of the two-hundredth anniversary of the abolition of the transatlantic slave trade" and resolutions 62/122 of 17 December 2007 and 63/5 of 20 October 2008, entitled "Permanent memorial to and remembrance of the victims of slavery and the transatlantic slave trade",

Recalling also its resolution 63/100 B of 5 December 2008, entitled "United Nations public information policies and activities",

Recalling further the designation of 25 March as the annual International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade, beginning in 2008, as a complement to the existing International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and its Abolition of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization,

Noting the initiatives undertaken by States in reaffirming their commitment to implement paragraphs 101 and 102 of the Durban Declaration of the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, aimed at countering the legacy of slavery and contributing to the restoration of the dignity of the victims of slavery and the slave trade,[57]

Recalling, in particular, paragraph 101 of the Durban Declaration, which, inter alia, invited the international community and its members to honour the memory of the victims,

Stressing the importance of educating and informing current and future generations about the causes, consequences and lessons of slavery and the transatlantic slave trade,

Recognizing how little is known about the four-hundred-year-long transatlantic slave trade and its lasting consequences, felt throughout the world, and welcoming the increased attention that the General Assembly commemoration brought to the issue, including the raising of its profile in many States,

Recalling that the permanent memorial initiative within the General Assembly complements the work being done at the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on the Slave Route Project, including its commemorative activities,

1. *Welcomes* the initiative of the States members of the Caribbean Community to erect, at a place of prominence at United Nations Headquarters that is easily accessible to delegates, United Nations staff and visitors, a permanent memorial in acknowledgement of the tragedy and in consideration of the legacy of slavery and the transatlantic slave trade;

2. *Also welcomes* the establishment of a committee of interested States to oversee the permanent memorial project, drawn from all geographical regions of the world, with Member States from the Caribbean Community and the African Union playing a primary role, in collaboration with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, representatives of the Secretariat, the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture of the New York Public Library and civil society;

3. *Endorses* the establishment of a trust fund for the permanent memorial, to be referred to as the United Nations Trust Fund for Partnerships – Permanent Memorial, which will be administered by the United Nations Office for Partnerships, and notes the status of voluntary contributions currently held in the Trust Fund, which currently amount to 346,118 United States dollars;

4. *Welcomes* the appointment of a Goodwill Ambassador to assist with re-engaging international attention on the horrific nature of slavery, the transatlantic slave trade and their legacy of discrimination, while promoting and supporting the media outreach and resource mobilization efforts of the initiative;

5. *Recognizes* the importance and necessity of sustained voluntary contributions in order to achieve in a timely manner the goal of erecting a permanent memorial in honour of the victims of slavery and the transatlantic slave trade;

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[57] See A/CONF.189/12 and Corr.1, chap. I.

6. *Expresses sincere appreciation* to those Member States that have already made contributions to the Trust Fund, and invites Member States and other interested parties that have not done so to do likewise;

7. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General, the Secretariat and, in particular, the United Nations Office for Partnerships and members of the committee for their invaluable support, technical advice and assistance towards implementation of the project;

8. *Reiterates its request* contained in resolutions 61/19 and 63/5 for Member States that have not already done so to develop educational programmes, including through school curricula, designed to educate and inculcate in future generations an understanding of the lessons, history and consequences of slavery and the slave trade;

9. *Encourages* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to launch an international design competition for the permanent memorial, which is to be funded from the Trust Fund, in view of the considerable experience of that Organization with the Slave Route Project, international competitions and its worldwide presence through its network of field offices and National Commissions;

10. *Invites* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to assist the committee in defining guidelines for the selection process and in identifying qualified candidates from its pool of international specialists to serve on the international jury;

11. *Requests* the Department of Public Information, in cooperation with the countries concerned and with relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, to continue to take appropriate steps to enhance world public awareness of the commemorative activities and the permanent memorial initiative, and to continue to facilitate efforts to erect the permanent memorial at United Nations Headquarters, within existing resources;

12. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the programme of educational outreach on the transatlantic slave trade and slavery,[58] which highlights developments relating to the diverse educational outreach strategy to increase awareness of and to educate future generations about the causes, consequences, lessons and legacy of the four-hundred-year-long slave trade and to communicate the dangers of racism and prejudice, and encourages continued action in this regard;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session on continued action to implement the programme of educational outreach, including action by Member States, as well as steps to enhance world public awareness of the commemorative activities and the permanent memorial initiative;

14. *Requests* the United Nations Office for Partnerships, through the Secretary-General, to submit a comprehensive report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session on the status of the Trust Fund, and in particular on contributions received and their utilization;

15. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled "Follow-up to the commemoration of the two-hundredth anniversary of the abolition of the transatlantic slave trade".

RESOLUTION 64/16

Adopted at the 54th plenary meeting, on 2 December 2009, by a recorded vote of 109 to 8, with 55 abstentions,* on the basis of draft resolution A/64/L.20 and Add.1, sponsored by: Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Egypt, Guinea, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Morocco, Namibia, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen, Zimbabwe, Palestine

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Philippines, Qatar, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Australia, Canada, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Palau, United States of America

Abstaining: Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Colombia, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, El Salvador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tonga, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay

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[58] A/64/299.

64/16. Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 181 (II) of 29 November 1947, 194 (III) of 11 December 1948, 3236 (XXIX) of 22 November 1974, 3375 (XXX) and 3376 (XXX) of 10 November 1975, 31/20 of 24 November 1976 and all its subsequent relevant resolutions, including those adopted at its emergency special sessions and its resolution 63/26 of 26 November 2008,

Recalling also its resolution 58/292 of 6 May 2004,

Having considered the report of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People,[59]

Recalling the mutual recognition between the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization, the representative of the Palestinian people, as well as the existing agreements between the two sides and the need for full compliance with those agreements,

Recalling also the Quartet road map to a permanent two-State solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, endorsed by the Security Council in resolution 1515 (2003) of 19 November 2003,[60]

Recalling further the Arab Peace Initiative adopted by the Council of the League of Arab States at its fourteenth session, held in Beirut on 27 and 28 March 2002,[61]

Recalling the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice on the *Legal Consequences of the Construction of a Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory*,[62] and recalling also its resolutions ES-10/15 of 20 July 2004 and ES-10/17 of 15 December 2006,

Reaffirming that the United Nations has a permanent responsibility towards the question of Palestine until the question is resolved in all its aspects in a satisfactory manner in accordance with international legitimacy,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People for its efforts in performing the tasks assigned to it by the General Assembly, and takes note of its annual report,[59] including the conclusions and valuable recommendations contained in chapter VII thereof;

2. *Requests* the Committee to continue to exert all efforts to promote the realization of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to self-determination, to support the Middle East peace process and to mobilize international support for and assistance to the Palestinian people, and authorizes the Committee to make such adjustments in its approved programme of work as it may consider appropriate and necessary in the light of developments and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session and thereafter;

3. *Also requests* the Committee to continue to keep under review the situation relating to the question of Palestine and to report and make suggestions to the General Assembly, the Security Council or the Secretary-General, as appropriate;

4. *Further requests* the Committee to continue to extend its cooperation and support to Palestinian and other civil society organizations and to continue to involve additional civil society organizations and parliamentarians in its work in order to mobilize international solidarity and support for the Palestinian people, particularly during this critical period of humanitarian hardship and financial crisis, with the overall aim of promoting the achievement by the Palestinian people of its inalienable rights and a just, lasting and peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine, the core of the Arab-Israeli conflict, on the basis of the relevant United Nations resolutions, the terms of reference of the Madrid Conference, including the principle of land for peace, the Arab Peace Initiative[61] and the Quartet road map;[60]

5. *Requests* the United Nations Conciliation Commission for Palestine, established under General Assembly resolution 194 (III), and other United Nations bodies associated with the question of Palestine to continue to cooperate fully with the Committee and to make available to it, at its request, the relevant information and documentation which they have at their disposal;

6. *Invites* all Governments and organizations to extend their cooperation to the Committee in the performance of its tasks;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to circulate the report of the Committee to all the competent bodies of the United Nations, and urges them to take the necessary action, as appropriate;

8. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the Committee with all the necessary facilities for the performance of its tasks.

RESOLUTION 64/17

Adopted at the 54th plenary meeting, on 2 December 2009, by a recorded vote of 112 to 9, with 54 abstentions,* on the basis of draft resolution A/64/L.21 and Add.1, sponsored by: Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Egypt, Guinea, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Morocco, Namibia,

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[59] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 35* (A/64/35).

[60] S/2003/529, annex.

[61] A/56/1026-S/2002/932, annex II, resolution 14/221.

[62] See A/ES-10/273 and Corr.1; see also *Legal Consequences of the Construction of a Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, Advisory Opinion, I.C.J. Reports 2004*, p. 136.

Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen, Zimbabwe, Palestine

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Philippines, Qatar, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Australia, Canada, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, New Zealand, Palau, United States of America

Abstaining: Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Belgium, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Colombia, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, El Salvador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tonga, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

64/17. Division for Palestinian Rights of the Secretariat

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People,[63]

Taking note, in particular, of the relevant information contained in chapter V.B of that report,

Recalling its resolution 32/40 B of 2 December 1977 and all its subsequent relevant resolutions, including its resolution 63/27 of 26 November 2008,

1. *Notes with appreciation* the action taken by the Secretary-General in compliance with its resolution 63/27;

2. *Considers* that, by assisting the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People in the implementation of its mandate, the Division for Palestinian Rights of the Secretariat continues to make a useful and constructive contribution to raising international awareness of the question of Palestine and to generating international support for the rights of the Palestinian people and a peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the Division with the necessary resources and to ensure that it continues to carry out its programme of work as detailed in relevant earlier resolutions, in consultation with the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People and under its guidance, including the monitoring of developments relevant to the question of Palestine, the organization of international meetings and conferences in various regions with the participation of all sectors of the international community, liaison and cooperation with civil society and parliamentarians, the further development and expansion of the "Question of Palestine" website and the documents collection of the United Nations Information System on the Question of Palestine, the preparation and widest possible dissemination of publications and information materials on various aspects of the question of Palestine and the further development and enhancement of the annual training programme for staff of the Palestinian Authority in contribution to Palestinian capacity-building efforts;

4. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to ensure the continued cooperation of the Department of Public Information and other units of the Secretariat in enabling the Division to perform its tasks and in covering adequately the various aspects of the question of Palestine;

5. *Invites* all Governments and organizations to extend their cooperation to the Division in the performance of its tasks;

6. *Requests* the Division, as part of the observance of the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People on 29 November, to continue to organize, under the guidance of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, an annual exhibit on Palestinian rights or a cultural event in cooperation with the Permanent Observer Mission of Palestine to the United Nations, and encourages Member States to continue to give the widest support and publicity to the observance of the Day of Solidarity.

RESOLUTION 64/18

Adopted at the 54th plenary meeting, on 2 December 2009, by a recorded vote of 162 to 8, with 5 abstentions,* on the basis of draft resolution A/64/L.22 and Add.1, sponsored by: Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Guinea, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Morocco, Namibia, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, South Africa,

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[63] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 35* (A/64/35).

Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen, Zimbabwe, Palestine

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Australia, Canada, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Palau, United States of America

Abstaining: Benin, Cameroon, Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Tonga

64/18. Special information programme on the question of Palestine of the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People,[64]

Taking note, in particular, of the information contained in chapter VI of that report,

Recalling its resolution 63/28 of 26 November 2008,

Convinced that the worldwide dissemination of accurate and comprehensive information and the role of civil society organizations and institutions remain of vital importance in heightening awareness of and support for the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people and the efforts to achieve a just, lasting and peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine,

Recalling the mutual recognition between the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization, the representative of the Palestinian people, as well as the existing agreements between the two sides,

Recalling also the Quartet road map to a permanent two-State solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict,[65]

Recalling further the Arab Peace Initiative adopted by the Council of the League of Arab States at its fourteenth session, held in Beirut on 27 and 28 March 2002,[66]

Recalling the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice on the *Legal Consequences of the Construction of a Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory*,[67]

Reaffirming that the United Nations has a permanent responsibility towards the question of Palestine until the question is resolved in all its aspects in a satisfactory manner in accordance with international legitimacy,

Expressing the hope that the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat, in its programme for 2010–2011, will continue to examine ways to foster and encourage the contribution of the media in support of the peace process between the Palestinian and Israeli sides,

1. *Notes with appreciation* the action taken by the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat in compliance with resolution 63/28;

2. *Considers* that the special information programme on the question of Palestine of the Department is very useful in raising the awareness of the international community concerning the question of Palestine and the situation in the Middle East and that the programme is contributing effectively to an atmosphere conducive to dialogue and supportive of the peace process;

3. *Requests* the Department, in full cooperation and coordination with the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, to continue, with the necessary flexibility as may be required by developments affecting the question of Palestine, its special information programme for 2010–2011, in particular:

(*a*) To disseminate information on all the activities of the United Nations system relating to the question of Palestine and the peace process, including reports on the work carried out by the relevant United Nations organizations, as well as on the efforts of the Secretary-General and his Special Envoy vis-à-vis the peace process;

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[64] Ibid.

[65] S/2003/529, annex.

[66] A/56/1026-S/2002/932, annex II, resolution 14/221.

[67] See A/ES-10/273 and Corr.1; see also *Legal Consequences of the Construction of a Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, Advisory Opinion, I.C.J. Reports 2004*, p. 136.

(*b*) To continue to issue and update publications and audio-visual materials on the various aspects of the question of Palestine in all fields, including materials concerning the relevant recent developments in that regard, in particular the efforts to achieve a peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine;

(*c*) To expand its collection of audio-visual material on the question of Palestine, to continue the production and preservation of such material and to update, on a periodic basis, the public exhibit on the question of Palestine displayed in the General Assembly building as well as at United Nations headquarters in Geneva and Vienna;

(*d*) To organize and promote fact-finding news missions for journalists to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and Israel;

(*e*) To organize international, regional and national seminars or encounters for journalists aimed in particular at sensitizing public opinion to the question of Palestine and the peace process and at enhancing dialogue and understanding between Palestinians and Israelis for the promotion of a peaceful settlement to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict;

(*f*) To continue to provide assistance to the Palestinian people in the field of media development, in particular to strengthen the annual training programme for Palestinian broadcasters and journalists;

4. *Encourages* the Department to formulate ways for the media and representatives of civil society to engage in open and positive discussions to explore means for encouraging people-to-people dialogue and promoting peace and mutual understanding in the region.

RESOLUTION 64/19

Adopted at the 54th plenary meeting, on 2 December 2009, by a recorded vote of 164 to 7, with 4 abstentions,* on the basis of draft resolution A/64/L.23 and Add.1, sponsored by: Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Guinea, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Namibia, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen, Zimbabwe, Palestine

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Australia, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Palau, United States of America

Abstaining: Cameroon, Canada, Fiji, Tonga

64/19. Peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine

The General Assembly,

Recalling its relevant resolutions, including those adopted at its tenth emergency special session,

Recalling also its resolution 58/292 of 6 May 2004,

Recalling further relevant Security Council resolutions, including resolutions 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967, 338 (1973) of 22 October 1973, 1397 (2002) of 12 March 2002, 1515 (2003) of 19 November 2003, 1544 (2004) of 19 May 2004 and 1850 (2008) of 16 December 2008,

Welcoming the affirmation by the Security Council of the vision of a region where two States, Israel and Palestine, live side by side within secure and recognized borders,

Noting with concern that it has been more than sixty years since the adoption of its resolution 181 (II) of 29 November 1947 and forty-two years since the occupation of Palestinian territory, including East Jerusalem, in 1967,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to the request made in its resolution 63/29 of 26 November 2008,[68]

Reaffirming the permanent responsibility of the United Nations with regard to the question of Palestine until the question is resolved in all its aspects in accordance with international law,

Recalling the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice on the *Legal Consequences*

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[68] A/64/351-S/2009/464.

of the Construction of a Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory,[69] and recalling also its resolutions ES-10/15 of 20 July 2004 and ES-10/17 of 15 December 2006,

Convinced that achieving a just, lasting and comprehensive settlement of the question of Palestine, the core of the Arab-Israeli conflict, is imperative for the attainment of comprehensive and lasting peace and stability in the Middle East,

Aware that the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples is among the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

Affirming the principle of the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by war,

Recalling its resolution 2625 (XXV) of 24 October 1970,

Reaffirming the illegality of the Israeli settlements in the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967, including East Jerusalem,

Stressing the detrimental impact of Israeli settlement policies, decisions and activities on efforts to resume the peace process and achieve peace in the Middle East,

Reaffirming the illegality of Israeli actions aimed at changing the status of Jerusalem, including measures such as the so-called E-1 plan and all other unilateral measures aimed at altering the character, status and demographic composition of the city and of the Territory as a whole,

Reaffirming also that the construction by Israel, the occupying Power, of a wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in and around East Jerusalem, and its associated regime are contrary to international law,

Expressing deep concern about the continuing Israeli policy of closures and severe restrictions on the movement of persons and goods, including medical and humanitarian personnel and goods, via the imposition of prolonged closures and severe economic and movement restrictions that in effect amount to a blockade, crossing closures, checkpoints and a permit regime throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and the consequent negative impact on the socio-economic situation of the Palestinian people, which remains that of a dire humanitarian crisis, as well as on efforts aimed at rehabilitating and developing the damaged Palestinian economy and on the contiguity of the Territory,

Recalling the mutual recognition between the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization, the representative of the Palestinian people,[70] and the need for full compliance with the agreements concluded between the two sides,

Recalling also the endorsement by the Security Council, in resolution 1515 (2003), of the Quartet road map to a permanent two-State solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict[71] and the call in Council resolution 1850 (2008) for the parties to fulfil their obligations under the road map, as affirmed in the Israeli-Palestinian Joint Understanding reached at the international conference held in Annapolis, United States of America, on 27 November 2007,[72] and to refrain from any steps that could undermine confidence or prejudice the outcome of negotiations,

Noting the Israeli withdrawal in 2005 from the Gaza Strip and parts of the northern West Bank and the dismantlement of the settlements therein as a step towards the implementation of the road map,

Recalling the Arab Peace Initiative adopted by the Council of the League of Arab States at its fourteenth session, held in Beirut on 27 and 28 March 2002,[73]

Expressing support for the agreed principles for bilateral negotiations, as affirmed by the parties at the Annapolis conference, aimed at concluding a peace treaty resolving all outstanding issues, including all core issues, without exception, for the achievement of a just, lasting and peaceful settlement of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and ultimately of the Arab-Israeli conflict as a whole for the realization of a comprehensive peace in the Middle East,

Expressing support also for the convening of an international conference in Moscow, as envisioned by the Security Council in resolution 1850 (2008), for the advancement and acceleration of a resumed peace process,

Noting the important contribution to the peace process of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General to the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Palestinian Authority, including within the framework of the activities of the Quartet,

Welcoming the reconvening of the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee for the Coordination of the International Assistance to Palestinians, under the chairmanship of Norway, at United Nations Headquarters on 22 September 2009, affirming the importance of continued follow-up and fulfilment of pledges made at the International Conference in Support of the Palestinian Economy for the Reconstruction of Gaza, held in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, on 2 March 2009, for the provision of emergency assistance and support for reconstruction and economic recovery in the Gaza Strip and alleviation of the socio-economic and humanitarian crisis being faced by the Palestinian people, and acknowledging the contribution of the Palestinian-European Mechanism for the Management of Socio-Economic Aid of the European Commission in this regard,

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[69] See A/ES-10/273 and Corr.1; see also *Legal Consequences of the Construction of a Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, Advisory Opinion, I.C.J. Reports 2004*, p. 136.

[70] See A/48/486-S/26560, annex.

[71] S/2003/529, annex.

[72] Available from http://unispal.un.org.

[73] A/56/1026-S/2002/932, annex II, resolution 14/221.

Recognizing the efforts being undertaken by the Palestinian Authority, with international support, to rebuild, reform and strengthen its damaged institutions, emphasizing the need to preserve and develop the Palestinian institutions and infrastructure, and welcoming in this regard the Palestinian Authority's plan for constructing the institutions of a Palestinian State within a twenty-four-month period as a demonstration of its serious commitment to an independent State that provides opportunity, justice and security for the Palestinian people and is a responsible neighbour to all States in the region,

Welcoming the efforts and progress made in the security sector by the Palestinian Authority, calling upon the parties to continue cooperation that benefits both Palestinians and Israelis, in particular by promoting security and building confidence, and expressing the hope that such progress will be extended to all major population centres,

Reiterating its concern over the negative developments that have continued to occur in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, including the large number of deaths and injuries, mostly among Palestinian civilians, the acts of violence and brutality committed against Palestinian civilians by Israeli settlers in the West Bank, the widespread destruction of public and private Palestinian property and infrastructure, the internal displacement of civilians and the serious deterioration of the socio-economic and humanitarian conditions of the Palestinian people,

Expressing grave concern, in particular, over the crisis in the Gaza Strip as a result of the continuing prolonged Israeli closures and severe economic and movement restrictions that in effect amount to a blockade and the military operations in the Gaza Strip between December 2008 and January 2009, which caused extensive loss of life and injury, particularly among Palestinian civilians, including children and women, widespread damage and destruction to Palestinian homes, properties, vital infrastructure, public institutions, including hospitals and schools, and United Nations facilities, and internal displacement of civilians,

Stressing the need for the full implementation by all parties of Security Council resolution 1860 (2009) of 8 January 2009 and General Assembly resolution ES-10/18 of 16 January 2009,

Expressing concern over continuing military actions in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including raids and arrest campaigns, and over the continued imposition of hundreds of checkpoints and obstacles to movement in and around Palestinian population centres by the Israeli occupying forces, and emphasizing in this regard the need for the implementation by both sides of the Sharm el-Sheikh understandings,

Emphasizing the importance of the safety, protection and well-being of all civilians in the whole Middle East region, and condemning all acts of violence and terror against civilians on both sides,

Expressing concern over the unlawful takeover of Palestinian Authority institutions in the Gaza Strip in June 2007, and calling for the restoration of the situation to that which existed prior to June 2007 and for the continuation of the serious efforts being exerted by Egypt, the League of Arab States and other concerned parties for the promotion of dialogue towards reconciliation and the restoration of Palestinian national unity,

Stressing the urgent need for sustained and active international involvement, including by the Quartet, to support both parties in resuming, advancing and accelerating the peace process negotiations for the achievement of a just, lasting and comprehensive peace settlement, on the basis of United Nations resolutions, the road map and the Arab Peace Initiative,

Acknowledging the efforts being undertaken by civil society to promote a peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine,

Recalling the findings by the International Court of Justice, in its advisory opinion, including on the urgent necessity for the United Nations as a whole to redouble its efforts to bring the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, which continues to pose a threat to international peace and security, to a speedy conclusion, thereby establishing a just and lasting peace in the region,[74]

Affirming once again the right of all States in the region to live in peace within secure and internationally recognized borders,

1. *Reaffirms* the necessity of achieving a peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine, the core of the Arab-Israeli conflict, in all its aspects, and of intensifying all efforts towards that end;

2. *Also reaffirms* its full support for the Middle East peace process, based on the relevant United Nations resolutions, the terms of reference of the Madrid Conference, including the principle of land for peace, the Arab Peace Initiative adopted by the Council of the League of Arab States at its fourteenth session[73] and the Quartet road map to a permanent two-State solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict,[71] and for the existing agreements between the Israeli and Palestinian sides, stresses the necessity for the establishment of a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the Middle East, and welcomes in this regard the ongoing efforts of the Quartet and of the League of Arab States;

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[74] See A/ES-10/273 and Corr.1, advisory opinion, para. 161; see also *Legal Consequences of the Construction of a Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, Advisory Opinion, I.C.J. Reports 2004*, p. 136.

3. *Encourages* continued serious regional and international efforts to follow up and promote the Arab Peace Initiative, including by the Ministerial Committee formed at the Riyadh summit in March 2007;

4. *Urges* the parties to undertake, with the support of the Quartet and the international community, immediate and concrete steps in follow-up to the Israeli-Palestinian Joint Understanding reached at the international conference held in Annapolis, United States of America, on 27 November 2007,[72] including through the resumption of active and serious bilateral negotiations;

5. *Encourages*, in this regard, the convening of an international conference in Moscow, as envisioned by the Security Council in resolution 1850 (2008), for the advancement and acceleration of a resumed peace process;

6. *Calls upon* both parties to act on their previous agreements and obligations, in particular adherence to the road map, irrespective of reciprocity, in order to create the conditions necessary for the resumption of negotiations in the near term;

7. *Calls upon* the parties themselves, with the support of the Quartet and other interested parties, to exert all efforts necessary to halt the deterioration of the situation and to reverse all unilateral and unlawful measures taken on the ground since 28 September 2000;

8. *Underscores* the need for the parties to take confidence-building measures aimed at improving the situation on the ground, promoting stability and fostering the peace process, including the need for the further release of prisoners;

9. *Stresses* the need for a speedy end to the reoccupation of Palestinian population centres, inter alia, by easing movement and access, including through the removal of checkpoints and other obstructions to movement, and the need for respect and preservation of the territorial unity, contiguity and integrity of all of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem;

10. *Also stresses* the need for an immediate and complete cessation of all acts of violence, including military attacks, destruction and acts of terror;

11. *Reiterates its demand* for the full implementation of Security Council resolution 1860 (2009);

12. *Reiterates* the need for the full implementation by both parties of the Agreement on Movement and Access and of the Agreed Principles for the Rafah Crossing, of 15 November 2005, and the need, specifically, to allow for the sustained opening of all crossings into and out of the Gaza Strip for humanitarian supplies, movement and access, as well as for commercial flows and all necessary construction materials, which are essential for alleviating the dire humanitarian crisis, improving the living conditions of the Palestinian people and promoting the recovery of the Palestinian economy;

13. *Stresses*, in this regard, the urgent necessity for the advancement of reconstruction in the Gaza Strip, including through the completion of numerous suspended projects managed by the United Nations, according to the proposal of the Secretary-General, and the commencement of United Nations-led civilian reconstruction activities;

14. *Calls upon* Israel, the occupying Power, to comply strictly with its obligations under international law, including international humanitarian law, and to cease all of its measures that are contrary to international law and unilateral actions in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, that are aimed at altering the character, status and demographic composition of the Territory, including via the de facto annexation of land, and thus at prejudging the final outcome of peace negotiations;

15. *Reiterates its demand* for the complete cessation of all Israeli settlement activities in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan, and calls for the full implementation of the relevant Security Council resolutions;

16. *Calls for* the cessation of all provocations, including by Israeli settlers, in East Jerusalem, including in and around religious sites;

17. *Demands*, accordingly, that Israel, the occupying Power, comply with its legal obligations under international law, as mentioned in the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice[69] and as demanded in General Assembly resolutions ES-10/13 of 21 October 2003 and ES-10/15, and, inter alia, that it immediately cease its construction of the wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and calls upon all States Members of the United Nations to comply with their legal obligations, as mentioned in the advisory opinion;

18. *Reaffirms its commitment*, in accordance with international law, to the two-State solution of Israel and Palestine, living side by side in peace and security within recognized borders, based on the pre-1967 borders;

19. *Stresses* the need for:

(*a*) The withdrawal of Israel from the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967, including East Jerusalem;

(*b*) The realization of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, primarily the right to self-determination and the right to their independent State;

20. *Also stresses* the need for a just resolution of the problem of Palestine refugees in conformity with its resolution 194 (III) of 11 December 1948;

21. *Calls upon* the parties to resume and accelerate direct peace negotiations towards the conclusion of a final peaceful settlement on the basis of relevant United Nations resolutions, especially of the Security Council, the terms of

reference of the Madrid Conference, the road map and the Arab Peace Initiative;

22. *Urges* Member States to expedite the provision of economic, humanitarian and technical assistance to the Palestinian people and the Palestinian Authority during this critical period in order to help to alleviate the humanitarian crisis being faced by the Palestinian people, particularly in the Gaza Strip, to rehabilitate the Palestinian economy and infrastructure and to support the rebuilding, restructuring and reform of Palestinian institutions and Palestinian State-building efforts;

23. *Encourages*, in this regard, the continuing efforts of the Quartet's Special Representative, Mr. Tony Blair, to strengthen Palestinian institutions, promote Palestinian economic development and mobilize international donor support;

24. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts with the parties concerned, and in consultation with the Security Council, towards the attainment of a peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine and the promotion of peace in the region and to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session a report on these efforts and on developments on this matter.

RESOLUTION 64/20

Adopted at the 54th plenary meeting, on 2 December 2009, by a recorded vote of 163 to 7, with 5 abstentions,* on the basis of draft resolution A/64/L.24 and Add.1, sponsored by: Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Egypt, Guinea, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mauritania, Morocco, Namibia, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen, Zimbabwe, Palestine

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Palau, Panama, United States of America

Abstaining: Australia, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Fiji, Tonga

64/20. Jerusalem

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 181 (II) of 29 November 1947, in particular its provisions regarding the City of Jerusalem,

Recalling also its resolution 36/120 E of 10 December 1981 and all its subsequent relevant resolutions, including resolution 56/31 of 3 December 2001, in which it, inter alia, determined that all legislative and administrative measures and actions taken by Israel, the occupying Power, which have altered or purported to alter the character and status of the Holy City of Jerusalem, in particular the so-called "Basic Law" on Jerusalem and the proclamation of Jerusalem as the capital of Israel, were null and void and must be rescinded forthwith,

Recalling further the Security Council resolutions relevant to Jerusalem, including resolution 478 (1980) of 20 August 1980, in which the Council, inter alia, decided not to recognize the "Basic Law" on Jerusalem,

Recalling the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice on the *Legal Consequences of the Construction of a Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory*,[75] and recalling its resolution ES-10/15 of 20 July 2004,

Expressing its grave concern about any action taken by any body, governmental or non-governmental, in violation of the above-mentioned resolutions,

Expressing its grave concern also, in particular about the continuation by Israel, the occupying Power, of illegal settlement activities, including the so-called E-1 plan, its construction of the wall in and around East Jerusalem, its restrictions on access to and residence in East Jerusalem and the further isolation of the city from the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, which are having a detrimental effect on the lives of Palestinians and could prejudge a final status agreement on Jerusalem,

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[75] See A/ES-10/273 and Corr.1; see also *Legal Consequences of the Construction of a Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, Advisory Opinion, I.C.J. Reports 2004*, p. 136.

Expressing its grave concern further about the continuing Israeli demolition of Palestinian homes and the eviction of numerous Palestinian families from East Jerusalem neighbourhoods, as well as other acts of provocation and incitement, including by Israeli settlers, in the city,

Expressing its concern about the Israeli excavations undertaken in the Old City of Jerusalem, including in and around religious sites,

Reaffirming that the international community, through the United Nations, has a legitimate interest in the question of the City of Jerusalem and in the protection of the unique spiritual, religious and cultural dimensions of the city, as foreseen in relevant United Nations resolutions on this matter,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the situation in the Middle East,[76]

1. *Reiterates its determination* that any actions taken by Israel, the occupying Power, to impose its laws, jurisdiction and administration on the Holy City of Jerusalem are illegal and therefore null and void and have no validity whatsoever, and calls upon Israel to immediately cease all such illegal and unilateral measures;

2. *Stresses* that a comprehensive, just and lasting solution to the question of the City of Jerusalem should take into account the legitimate concerns of both the Palestinian and Israeli sides and should include internationally guaranteed provisions to ensure the freedom of religion and of conscience of its inhabitants, as well as permanent, free and unhindered access to the holy places by the people of all religions and nationalities;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 64/21

Adopted at the 54th plenary meeting, on 2 December 2009, by a recorded vote of 116 to 7, with 51 abstentions,* on the basis of draft resolution A/64/L.25 and Add.1, sponsored by: Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Egypt, Guinea, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mauritania, Morocco, Namibia, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen, Zimbabwe, Palestine

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Canada, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Palau, United States of America

Abstaining: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tonga, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

64/21. The Syrian Golan

The General Assembly,

Having considered the item entitled "The situation in the Middle East",

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the situation in the Middle East,[77]

Recalling Security Council resolution 497 (1981) of 17 December 1981,

Reaffirming the fundamental principle of the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force, in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming once more the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[78] to the occupied Syrian Golan,

Deeply concerned that Israel has not withdrawn from the Syrian Golan, which has been under occupation since 1967, contrary to the relevant Security Council and General Assembly resolutions,

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[76] A/64/343.

[77] Ibid.

[78] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

Stressing the illegality of the Israeli settlement construction and other activities in the occupied Syrian Golan since 1967,

Noting with satisfaction the convening in Madrid on 30 October 1991 of the Peace Conference on the Middle East, on the basis of Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967, 338 (1973) of 22 October 1973 and 425 (1978) of 19 March 1978 and the formula of land for peace,

Expressing grave concern over the halt in the peace process on the Syrian track, and expressing the hope that peace talks will soon resume from the point they had reached,

1. *Declares* that Israel has failed so far to comply with Security Council resolution 497 (1981);

2. *Also declares* that the Israeli decision of 14 December 1981 to impose its laws, jurisdiction and administration on the occupied Syrian Golan is null and void and has no validity whatsoever, as confirmed by the Security Council in resolution 497 (1981), and calls upon Israel to rescind it;

3. *Reaffirms its determination* that all relevant provisions of the Regulations annexed to the Hague Convention of 1907[79] and the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War[78] continue to apply to the Syrian territory occupied by Israel since 1967, and calls upon the parties thereto to respect and ensure respect for their obligations under those instruments in all circumstances;

4. *Determines once more* that the continued occupation of the Syrian Golan and its de facto annexation constitute a stumbling block in the way of a just, comprehensive and lasting peace in the region;

5. *Calls upon* Israel to resume the talks on the Syrian and Lebanese tracks and to respect the commitments and undertakings reached during the previous talks;

6. *Demands once more* that Israel withdraw from all the occupied Syrian Golan to the line of 4 June 1967 in implementation of the relevant Security Council resolutions;

7. *Calls upon* all the parties concerned, the co-sponsors of the peace process and the entire international community to exert all the efforts necessary to ensure the resumption of the peace process and its success by implementing Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) and 338 (1973);

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 64/71

Adopted at the 58th plenary meeting, on 4 December 2009, by a recorded vote of 120 to 1, with 3 abstentions,* on the basis of draft resolution A/64/L.18 and Add.1, sponsored by: Albania, Australia, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Canada, Cape Verde, Croatia, Cyprus, Finland, Greece, Guatemala, Iceland, Indonesia, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Madagascar, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, New Zealand, Norway, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Seychelles, Slovenia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Trinidad and Tobago, Ukraine, United States of America

* *In favour:* Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Turkey

Abstaining: Colombia, El Salvador, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

64/71. Oceans and the law of the sea

The General Assembly,

Recalling its annual resolutions on the law of the sea and on oceans and the law of the sea, including resolution 63/111 of 5 December 2008, and other relevant resolutions concerning the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea ("the Convention"),[80]

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,[81] and also the reports on the work of the United Nations Open-ended Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea ("the Consultative Process") at its tenth meeting,[82] on the nineteenth Meeting of States Parties to the Convention,[83] and the report entitled "Regular process for global reporting and assessment of the state of the marine environment, including socio-economic aspects: the 'assessment of assessments'",[84]

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[79] See Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, *The Hague Conventions and Declarations of 1899 and 1907* (New York, Oxford University Press, 1915).

[80] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1833, No. 31363.

[81] A/64/66 and Add.1 and 2.

[82] See A/64/131.

[83] SPLOS/203.

Emphasizing the pre-eminent contribution provided by the Convention to the strengthening of peace, security, cooperation and friendly relations among all nations in conformity with the principles of justice and equal rights and to the promotion of the economic and social advancement of all peoples of the world, in accordance with the purposes and principles of the United Nations as set forth in the Charter of the United Nations, as well as to the sustainable development of the oceans and seas,

Emphasizing also the universal and unified character of the Convention, and reaffirming that the Convention sets out the legal framework within which all activities in the oceans and seas must be carried out and is of strategic importance as the basis for national, regional and global action and cooperation in the marine sector, and that its integrity needs to be maintained, as recognized also by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in chapter 17 of Agenda 21,[85]

Recognizing the important contribution of sustainable development and management of the resources and uses of the oceans and seas to the achievement of international development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[86]

Conscious that the problems of ocean space are closely interrelated and need to be considered as a whole through an integrated, interdisciplinary and intersectoral approach, and reaffirming the need to improve cooperation and coordination at the national, regional and global levels, in accordance with the Convention, to support and supplement the efforts of each State in promoting the implementation and observance of the Convention, and the integrated management and sustainable development of the oceans and seas,

Reiterating the essential need for cooperation, including through capacity-building and transfer of marine technology, to ensure that all States, especially developing countries, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, as well as coastal African States, are able both to implement the Convention and to benefit from the sustainable development of the oceans and seas, as well as to participate fully in global and regional forums and processes dealing with oceans and law of the sea issues,

Emphasizing the need to strengthen the ability of competent international organizations to contribute, at the global, regional, subregional and bilateral levels, through cooperation programmes with Governments, to the development of national capacity in marine science and the sustainable management of the oceans and their resources,

Recalling that marine science is important for eradicating poverty, contributing to food security, conserving the world's marine environment and resources, helping to understand, predict and respond to natural events and promoting the sustainable development of the oceans and seas, by improving knowledge, through sustained research efforts and the evaluation of monitoring results, and applying such knowledge to management and decision-making,

Reiterating its deep concern at the serious adverse impacts on the marine environment and biodiversity, in particular on vulnerable marine ecosystems, including corals, hydrothermal vents and seamounts, of certain human activities,

Emphasizing the need for the safe and environmentally sound recycling of ships,

Expressing deep concern at the adverse economic, social and environmental impacts of the physical alteration and destruction of marine habitats that may result from land-based and coastal development activities, in particular those land reclamation activities that are carried out in a manner that has a detrimental impact on the marine environment,

Reiterating its serious concern at the current and projected adverse effects of climate change on the marine environment and marine biodiversity, and emphasizing the urgency of addressing this issue,

Expressing concern that climate change continues to increase the severity and incidence of coral bleaching throughout tropical seas and weakens the ability of reefs to withstand ocean acidification, which could have serious and irreversible negative effects on marine organisms, particularly corals, as well as to withstand other pressures, including overfishing and pollution,

Reiterating its deep concern at the vulnerability of the environment and the fragile ecosystems of the polar regions, including the Arctic Ocean and the Arctic ice cap, particularly affected by the projected adverse effects of climate change,

Recognizing that there is a need for a more integrated approach and to further study and promote measures for enhanced cooperation, coordination and collaboration relating to the conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity beyond areas of national jurisdiction,

Recognizing also that the realization of the benefits of the Convention could be enhanced by international cooperation, technical assistance and advanced scientific knowledge, as well as by funding and capacity-building,

Recognizing further that hydrographic surveys and nautical charting are critical to the safety of navigation and life at sea, environmental protection, including the protection of vulnerable marine ecosystems, and the economics of the global shipping industry, and encouraging further efforts towards electronic charting, which not only provides significantly increased benefits for safe navigation and management of ship movement, but also provides data and information that can be used for sustainable fisheries activities and other sectoral uses of the marine environment, the delimitation of maritime boundaries and environmental protection,

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[84] A/64/88.

[85] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex II.

[86] See resolution 55/2.

Emphasizing that underwater archaeological, cultural and historical heritage, including shipwrecks and watercrafts, holds essential information on the history of humankind and that such heritage is a resource that needs to be protected and preserved,

Noting with concern the continuing problem of transnational organized crime committed at sea, including illicit traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, the smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons, and threats to maritime safety and security, including piracy, armed robbery at sea, smuggling and terrorist acts against shipping, offshore installations and other maritime interests, and noting the deplorable loss of life and adverse impact on international trade, energy security and the global economy resulting from such activities,

Noting the importance of the delineation of the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles and that it is in the broader interest of the international community that coastal States with a continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles submit information on the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf ("the Commission"), and welcoming the submissions to the Commission by a considerable number of States Parties on the outer limits of their continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles, that the Commission has continued to fulfil its role, including of making recommendations to coastal States, and that the summaries of recommendations have been made publicly available,[87]

Noting also that many coastal States Parties have submitted preliminary information indicative of the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles, as provided for in the decision of the eighteenth Meeting of States Parties to the Convention regarding the workload of the Commission and the ability of States, particularly developing States, to fulfil the requirements of article 4 of annex II to the Convention, as well as the decision contained in SPLOS/72, paragraph (*a*),[88]

Noting further that some coastal States may continue to face particular challenges in relation to preparing and presenting submissions to the Commission,

Noting that financial and technical assistance may be sought by developing countries for activities in relation to preparing and presenting submissions to the Commission, including through the voluntary trust fund established by resolution 55/7 of 30 October 2000 for the purpose of facilitating the preparation of submissions to the Commission for developing States, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, and compliance with article 76 of the Convention, as well as other accessible international assistance,

Recognizing the importance of the trust funds established by resolution 55/7 in facilitating the participation of members of the Commission from developing States in the meetings of the Commission and in fulfilling the requirements of article 4 of annex II to the Convention, while noting with appreciation the recent contributions made to them,

Reaffirming the importance of the work of the Commission for coastal States and for the international community,

Recognizing the significant workload of the Commission in view of the large number of submissions already received and a number of submissions yet to be received, which places additional demands and challenges on its members and the secretariat as provided by the Secretary-General of the United Nations through the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea of the Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat ("the Division"),

Noting with concern the projected timetable of the work of the Commission on the submissions already received by it and those yet to be received[89] and, in this regard, the consequences of the duration of the sessions of the Commission and the meetings of its subcommissions,

Recognizing significant inequities and difficulties for States arising out of the projected timetable, including with respect to retaining expertise, when there is a considerable delay between preparation of submissions and their consideration by the Commission,

Recognizing also the need to take action to ensure that the Commission can perform its functions under the Convention expeditiously, efficiently and effectively, and maintain its high level of quality and expertise,

Welcoming the agreed outcome reflected in the report of the nineteenth Meeting of States Parties to the Convention regarding the workload of the Commission, and noting in particular the decision of the Meeting to continue to address the issues related to the workload of the Commission as a matter of priority, as well as the decision that its bureau would facilitate an informal working group to continue consideration of the issues related to the workload of the Commission,[90]

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[87] Available from www.un.org/Depts/los/index.htm.

[88] SPLOS/183.

[89] See SPLOS/203, paras. 81–83.

Recalling its decision, in resolutions 57/141 of 12 December 2002 and 58/240 of 23 December 2003, to establish a regular process under the United Nations for global reporting and assessment of the state of the marine environment, including socio-economic aspects, both current and foreseeable, building on existing regional assessments, as recommended by the World Summit on Sustainable Development,[91] and noting the need for cooperation among all States to this end,

Recalling also the launching of the start-up phase, the "assessment of assessments", and noting the work carried out by the Group of Experts established pursuant to resolution 60/30 of 29 November 2005 under the guidance of the Ad Hoc Steering Group for the "assessment of assessments" and with the assistance of the lead agencies, the United Nations Environment Programme and the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, and the support provided by other organizations and experts,

Recognizing the importance and the contribution of the work of the Consultative Process established by resolution 54/33 of 24 November 1999 to facilitate the annual review of developments in ocean affairs by the General Assembly,

Noting the responsibilities of the Secretary-General under the Convention and related resolutions of the General Assembly, in particular resolutions 49/28 of 6 December 1994, 52/26 of 26 November 1997 and 54/33, and in this context the substantial increase in activities of the Division, in particular in view of the growing number of requests to the Division for additional outputs and servicing of meetings, its increasing capacity-building activities, the need for enhanced support and assistance to the Commission and the role of the Division in inter-agency coordination and cooperation,

Reaffirming the importance of the work of the International Seabed Authority ("the Authority") in accordance with the Convention and the Agreement relating to the Implementation of Part XI of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 ("the Part XI Agreement"),[92]

Reaffirming also the importance of the work of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea ("the Tribunal") in accordance with the Convention,

I

Implementation of the Convention and related agreements and instruments

1. *Reaffirms* its annual resolutions on the law of the sea and on oceans and the law of the sea, including resolution 63/111, and other relevant resolutions concerning the Convention;[80]

2. *Also reaffirms* the unified character of the Convention and the vital importance of preserving its integrity;

3. *Calls upon* all States that have not done so, in order to achieve the goal of universal participation, to become parties to the Convention and the Part XI Agreement;[92]

4. *Calls upon* States that have not done so, in order to achieve the goal of universal participation, to become parties to the Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks ("the Fish Stocks Agreement");[93]

5. *Calls upon* States to harmonize their national legislation with the provisions of the Convention and, where applicable, relevant agreements and instruments, to ensure the consistent application of those provisions and to ensure also that any declarations or statements that they have made or make when signing, ratifying or acceding to the Convention do not purport to exclude or to modify the legal effect of the provisions of the Convention in their application to the State concerned and to withdraw any such declarations or statements;

6. *Calls upon* States Parties to the Convention that have not yet done so to deposit with the Secretary-General charts or lists of geographical coordinates, as provided for in the Convention;

7. *Urges* all States to cooperate, directly or through competent international bodies, in taking measures to protect and preserve objects of an archaeological and historical nature found at sea, in conformity with the Convention, and calls upon States to work together on such diverse challenges and opportunities as the appropriate relationship between salvage law and scientific management and conservation of underwater cultural heritage, increasing technological abilities to discover and reach underwater sites, looting and growing underwater tourism;

8. *Notes* the entry into force of the 2001 Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage on 2 January 2009,[94] and notes in particular the rules annexed thereto, which

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[90] Ibid., para. 95.

[91] See *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[92] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1836, No. 31364.

[93] Ibid., vol. 2167, No. 37924.

[94] See United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Thirty-first Session, Paris, 15 October-3 November 2001*, vol. 1 and corrigendum: *Resolutions*, resolution 24.

address the relationship between salvage law and scientific principles of management, conservation and protection of underwater cultural heritage among Parties, their nationals and vessels flying their flag;

II

Capacity-building

9. *Calls upon* donor agencies and international financial institutions to keep their programmes systematically under review to ensure the availability in all States, particularly in developing States, of the economic, legal, navigational, scientific and technical skills necessary for the full implementation of the Convention and the objectives of the present resolution, as well as the sustainable development of the oceans and seas nationally, regionally and globally, and in so doing to bear in mind the interests and needs of landlocked developing States;

10. *Encourages* intensified efforts to build capacity for developing countries, in particular for the least developed countries and small island developing States, as well as coastal African States, to improve hydrographic services and the production of nautical charts, including electronic charts, as well as the mobilization of resources and building of capacity with support from international financial institutions and the donor community;

11. *Calls upon* States and international financial institutions, including through bilateral, regional and global cooperation programmes and technical partnerships, to continue to strengthen capacity-building activities, in particular in developing countries, in the field of marine scientific research by, inter alia, training personnel to develop and enhance relevant expertise, providing the necessary equipment, facilities and vessels and transferring environmentally sound technologies;

12. *Also calls upon* States and international financial institutions, including through bilateral, regional and global cooperation programmes and technical partnerships, to strengthen capacity-building activities in developing countries, in particular least developed countries and small island developing States, to develop their maritime administration and appropriate legal frameworks to establish or enhance the necessary infrastructure, legislative and enforcement capabilities to promote effective compliance with, and implementation and enforcement of, their responsibilities under international law;

13. *Recognizes* the importance of the work of the International Maritime Law Institute of the International Maritime Organization as a centre of education and training of Government legal advisers, mainly from developing States, notes that the number of its graduates in 115 States confirms its effective capacity-building role in the field of international law, congratulates the Institute on the celebration of its twentieth anniversary, and urges States, intergovernmental organizations and financial institutions to make voluntary financial contributions to the budget of the Institute;

14. *Also recognizes* the importance of the World Maritime University of the International Maritime Organization as a centre for maritime education and research, confirms its effective capacity-building role in the field of maritime transportation, policy, administration, management, safety, security and environmental protection, as well as its role in the international exchange and transfer of knowledge, notes that almost 2,900 persons from 157 countries have graduated from the University since it was founded in 1983, welcomes the increasing number of students, and urges States, intergovernmental organizations and other bodies to make voluntary financial contributions to the University;

15. *Welcomes* ongoing activities for capacity-building so as to address maritime security and safety needs and the protection of the marine environment of developing States, and encourages States and international financial institutions to provide additional funding for capacity-building programmes, including for transfer of technology, including through the International Maritime Organization and other competent international organizations;

16. *Recognizes* the considerable need to provide sustained capacity-building assistance, including on financial and technical aspects, by relevant international organizations and donors to developing States, with a view to further strengthening their capacity to take effective measures against the multiple facets of international criminal activities at sea, in line with the relevant international instruments, including the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto;[95]

17. *Also recognizes* the need to build the capacity of developing States to raise awareness of, and support the implementation of, improved waste management practices, noting the particular vulnerability of small island developing States to the impact of marine pollution from land-based sources and marine debris;

18. *Further recognizes* the importance of assisting developing States, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, as well as coastal African States, in implementing the Convention, and urges States, intergovernmental organizations and agencies, national institutions, non-governmental organizations and international financial institutions, as well as natural and juridical persons, to make voluntary financial or other contributions to the trust funds, as referred to in resolution 57/141, established for this purpose;

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[95] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vols. 2225, 2237, 2241 and 2326, No. 39574.

19. *Encourages* States to use the Criteria and Guidelines on the Transfer of Marine Technology adopted by the Assembly of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization,[96] and recalls the important role of the secretariat of that Commission in the implementation and promotion of the Criteria and Guidelines;

20. *Calls upon* States to continue to assist developing States, and especially the least developed countries and small island developing States, as well as coastal African States, at the bilateral and, where appropriate, multilateral levels, in the preparation of submissions to the Commission regarding the establishment of the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles, including the assessment of the nature and extent of the continental shelf of a coastal State, and recalls that coastal States can make requests to the Commission for scientific and technical advice in the preparation of data for their submissions, in accordance with article 3 of annex II to the Convention;

21. *Calls upon* the Division to continue to disseminate information on relevant procedures related to the trust fund established for the purpose of facilitating the preparation of submissions to the Commission and to continue its dialogue with potential beneficiaries with a view to providing financial support to developing countries for activities to facilitate their submissions in accordance with the requirements of article 76 of the Convention and with the rules of procedure[97] and the Scientific and Technical Guidelines of the Commission;[98]

22. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in cooperation with States and relevant international organizations and institutions, to continue to support training and other activities to assist developing States in the preparation and presentation of their submissions to the Commission;

23. *Notes with appreciation* the regional workshop of the Tribunal, held in Cape Town, South Africa, from 7 to 9 October 2009, on the role of the Tribunal in the settlement of disputes relating to the law of the sea;

24. *Invites* Member States and others in a position to do so to support the capacity-building activities of the Division, including, in particular, the training and other activities to assist developing States in the preparation of their submissions to the Commission, and invites Member States and others in a position to do so to contribute to the trust fund established by the Secretary-General for the Office of Legal Affairs to support the promotion of international law;

25. *Recognizes* the important contribution of the Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe Memorial Fellowship on the Law of the Sea to the capacity-building of developing countries and the promotion of the law of the sea, reiterates its serious concern regarding the continued lack of resources, which has prevented the implementation of the twenty-second and subsequent awards, advises the Secretary-General to continue to finance the Fellowship from resources made available through an appropriate Office of Legal Affairs trust fund, reiterates its urgent appeal to Member States and others in a position to do so to contribute generously to the further development of the Fellowship to ensure that it is awarded every year, and requests the Secretary-General to include the Fellowship on the list of trust funds for the United Nations Pledging Conference for Development Activities;

26. *Also recognizes* the contribution that the United Nations-Nippon Foundation of Japan Fellowship Programme, which has awarded 50 fellowships to individuals from 44 Member States since 2005 and in April 2009 launched a fellowship alumni programme with an inaugural meeting of the Asia-Pacific alumni at the Foundation's headquarters in Tokyo, has made to human resources development for developing coastal States Parties and non-Parties to the Convention in the field of ocean affairs and the law of the sea or related disciplines;

III

Meeting of States Parties

27. *Welcomes* the report of the nineteenth Meeting of States Parties to the Convention;[83]

28. *Requests* the Secretary-General to convene the twentieth Meeting of States Parties to the Convention, in New York from 14 to 18 June 2010, and to provide the services required;

IV

Peaceful settlement of disputes

29. *Notes with satisfaction* the continued and significant contribution of the Tribunal to the settlement of disputes by peaceful means in accordance with Part XV of the Convention, and underlines the important role and authority of the Tribunal concerning the interpretation or application of the Convention and the Part XI Agreement;

30. *Equally pays tribute* to the important and long-standing role of the International Court of Justice with regard to the peaceful settlement of disputes concerning the law of the sea;

31. *Notes* that States Parties to an international agreement related to the purposes of the Convention may submit to, inter alia, the Tribunal or the International Court of Justice any dispute concerning the interpretation or application of that agreement submitted in accordance with that agreement, and notes also the possibility, provided for in the statutes of the Tribunal and the Court, to submit disputes to a chamber;

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[96] See Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, document IOC/INF-1203.

[97] CLCS/40/Rev.1.

[98] CLCS/11 and Corr.1 and Add.1 and Add.1/Corr.1.

32. *Encourages* States Parties to the Convention that have not yet done so to consider making a written declaration choosing from the means set out in article 287 of the Convention for the settlement of disputes concerning the interpretation or application of the Convention and the Part XI Agreement, bearing in mind the comprehensive character of the dispute settlement mechanism provided for in Part XV of the Convention;

V

The Area

33. *Notes* the progress made by the Authority in its deliberations, urges the finalization at its sixteenth session of the regulations for prospecting and exploration for polymetallic sulphides, encourages progress on the regulations for prospecting and exploration for cobalt-rich ferromanganese crusts in the Area, and reiterates the importance of the ongoing elaboration by the Authority, pursuant to article 145 of the Convention, of rules, regulations and procedures to ensure the effective protection of the marine environment, for, inter alia, the protection and conservation of the natural resources of the Area, and for the prevention of damage to the flora and fauna of the marine environment from harmful effects that may arise from activities in the Area;

34. *Also notes* the importance of the responsibilities entrusted to the Authority by articles 143 and 145 of the Convention, which refer to marine scientific research and protection of the marine environment, respectively;

VI

Effective functioning of the Authority and the Tribunal

35. *Appeals* to all States Parties to the Convention to pay their assessed contributions to the Authority and to the Tribunal in full and on time, and also appeals to States Parties in arrears with their contributions to fulfil their obligations without delay;

36. *Urges* all States Parties to the Convention to attend the sessions of the Authority, and calls upon the Authority to continue to pursue all options, including making concrete recommendations on the issue of dates, in order to improve attendance in Kingston and to ensure global participation;

37. *Calls upon* States that have not done so to consider ratifying or acceding to the Agreement on the Privileges and Immunities of the Tribunal[99] and to the Protocol on the Privileges and Immunities of the Authority;[100]

38. *Emphasizes* the importance of the Tribunal's rules and staff regulations in promoting the recruitment of a geographically representative staff in the Professional and higher categories, and welcomes the actions taken by the Tribunal in observance of those rules and regulations;

VII

The continental shelf and the work of the Commission

39. *Recalls* that, in accordance with article 76, paragraph 8, of the Convention, information on the limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles from the baselines from which the breadth of the territorial sea is measured shall be submitted by the coastal State to the Commission set up under annex II to the Convention on the basis of equitable geographical representation, that the Commission shall make recommendations to coastal States on matters related to the establishment of the outer limits of their continental shelf, and that the limits of the shelf established by a coastal State on the basis of these recommendations shall be final and binding;

40. *Also recalls* that, in accordance with article 77, paragraph 3, of the Convention, the rights of the coastal State over the continental shelf do not depend on occupation, effective or notional, or on any express proclamation;

41. *Notes with satisfaction* that a considerable number of States Parties to the Convention have submitted information to the Commission regarding the establishment of the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles, in conformity with article 76 of the Convention and article 4 of annex II to the Convention, taking into account the decision of the eleventh Meeting of States Parties to the Convention contained in SPLOS/72, paragraph (*a*);

42. *Also notes with satisfaction* that a considerable number of States Parties to the Convention have submitted to the Secretary-General, pursuant to the decision of the eighteenth Meeting of States Parties to the Convention,[101] preliminary information indicative of the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles and a description of the status of preparation and intended date of submission in accordance with the requirements of article 76 of the Convention and with the rules of procedure and the Scientific and Technical Guidelines of the Commission;

43. *Further notes with satisfaction* the progress in the work of the Commission[102] and that it is giving current consideration to a number of submissions that have been made regarding the establishment of the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles;

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[99] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2167, No. 37925.

[100] Ibid., vol. 2214, No. 39357.

[101] SPLOS/183, para. 1 (*a*).

[102] See CLCS/62 and CLCS/64.

44. *Notes with satisfaction* that the Commission, taking into account the decision of the eighteenth Meeting of States Parties to the Convention,[103] has compiled lists of websites of organizations, data/information portals and data holders where general information and publicly available scientific and technical data can be accessed that may be relevant to the preparation of submissions, and has made this information available on its website;[104]

45. *Takes note* of the recommendations made by the Commission on the submissions of a number of States, and welcomes the fact that summaries of recommendations are being made publicly available;[87]

46. *Notes* that consideration by the Commission of submissions by coastal States in accordance with article 76 of and annex II to the Convention is without prejudice to the application of other parts of the Convention by States Parties;

47. *Notes with concern* that the heavy workload of the Commission, owing to the considerable number of submissions, places additional demands on and challenges before its members and the secretariat as provided by the Division, and in that regard emphasizes the need to ensure that the Commission can perform its functions expeditiously, efficiently and effectively and maintain its high level of quality and expertise;

48. *Takes note* of the decision of the nineteenth Meeting of States Parties to the Convention, as reflected in the report of the Meeting, to continue to address, as a matter of priority, issues related to the workload of the Commission, including funding for its members attending the sessions of the Commission and the meetings of the subcommissions, and, in particular, the decision that the bureau of the Meeting will facilitate an informal working group to continue consideration of the issues;[90]

49. *Reiterates* the duty of States under the Convention, whose experts are serving on the Commission, to defray the expenses of the experts they have nominated while in performance of Commission duties, and calls upon these States to do their utmost to ensure the full participation of those experts in the work of the Commission, including the meetings of subcommissions, in accordance with the Convention;

50. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to take appropriate measures, within overall existing resource levels, to further strengthen the capacity of the Division, serving as the secretariat of the Commission, including in the context of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2010–2011, in order to ensure enhanced support and assistance to the Commission and its subcommissions in their consideration of submissions, as required by paragraph 9 of annex III to the rules of procedure of the Commission, in particular its human resources, taking into account the need for simultaneous work on several submissions;

51. *Urges* the Secretary-General to continue to provide all necessary secretariat services to the Commission in accordance with article 2, paragraph 5, of annex II to the Convention;

52. *Encourages* States to participate actively and contribute constructively to the ongoing work of the informal working group considering the issues related to the workload of the Commission, so that the Meeting of States Parties to the Convention may consider ways and means, including short-, medium- and long-term measures, to ensure that the Commission can perform its functions under the Convention expeditiously, efficiently and effectively and maintain its high level of quality and expertise;

53. *Requests* the Secretary-General to consider the comments of the informal working group, which are invited as soon as possible before mid-February 2010, in the context of the update of the document entitled "Issues related to the workload of the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf";[105]

54. *Encourages* States to make additional contributions to the voluntary trust fund established by resolution 55/7 for the purpose of facilitating the preparation of submissions to the Commission and to the voluntary trust fund also established by that resolution for the purpose of defraying the cost of participation of the members of the Commission from developing States in the meetings of the Commission;

55. *Approves* the convening by the Secretary-General of the twenty-fifth and twenty-sixth sessions of the Commission, in New York from 15 March to 23 April 2010 and from 2 to 27 August 2010, respectively, with full conference services for the plenary parts of these sessions,[106] and requests the Secretary-General to make every effort to meet these requirements within overall existing resources, on the understanding that the following periods will be used for the technical examinations of submissions at the Geographic Information System laboratories and other technical facilities of the Division: 15 March to 1 April 2010; 19 to 23 April 2010; and 2 to 13 August 2010;

56. *Expresses its firm conviction* about the importance of the work of the Commission, carried out in accordance with the Convention, including with respect to the participation of coastal States in relevant proceedings concerning their submissions, and recognizes the continued need for active interaction between coastal States and the Commission;

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[103] SPLOS/183, para. 3.

[104] www.un.org/depts/los/clcs_new/clcs_home.htm.

[105] SPLOS/157.

[106] From 5 to 16 April 2010 and from 16 to 27 August 2010.

57. *Encourages* States to continue exchanging views in order to increase understanding of issues, including expenditures involved, arising from the application of article 76 of the Convention, thus facilitating the preparation of submissions by States, in particular developing States, to the Commission;

58. *Notes* the number of submissions yet to be considered by the Commission, and in this regard stresses the urgent need for States Parties to the Convention to take appropriate and prompt steps that will allow the Commission to consider the increased number of submissions in a timely, efficient and effective manner;

59. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in cooperation with Member States, to continue supporting workshops or symposiums on scientific and technical aspects of the establishment of the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles, taking into account the need to strengthen capacity-building for developing countries in preparing their submissions;

VIII

Maritime safety and security and flag State implementation

60. *Encourages* States to ratify or accede to international agreements addressing the safety and security of navigation, as well as maritime labour, and to adopt the necessary measures consistent with the Convention and other relevant international instruments aimed at implementing and enforcing the rules contained in those agreements, and emphasizes the need for capacity-building for and assistance to developing States;

61. *Recognizes* that the legal regimes governing maritime safety and maritime security may have common and mutually reinforcing objectives that may be interrelated and could benefit from synergies, and encourages States to take this into account in their implementation;

62. *Emphasizes* that safety and security measures should be implemented with minimal negative effects on seafarers and fishers, especially in relation to their working conditions;

63. *Invites* States that have not yet done so to ratify or accede to the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006, the Work in Fishing Convention, 2007 (No. 188) and the Seafarers' Identity Documents Convention (Revised), 2003 (No. 185) of the International Labour Organization and to effectively implement those Conventions, and emphasizes the need to provide to States, at their request, technical cooperation and assistance in that regard;

64. *Emphasizes* the need for further efforts to promote a culture of safety and security in the shipping industry and to address the shortage of adequately trained personnel, notes the importance of the process in the International Maritime Organization to review the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers, 1978,[107] and urges the establishment of more centres to provide the required education and training;

65. *Welcomes* ongoing cooperation between the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Maritime Organization and the International Labour Organization relating to the safety of fishers and fishing vessels, underlines the urgent need for continued work in that area, and takes note of discussions in the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations on the merit of an international plan of action in this area;

66. *Encourages* continued cooperation between the parties to the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal[108] and the International Maritime Organization on regulations on the prevention of pollution from ships;

67. *Calls upon* States to participate in the diplomatic conference to be convened by the International Maritime Organization in 2010 on a protocol to the International Convention on Liability and Compensation for Damage in Connection with the Carriage of Hazardous and Noxious Substances by Sea, 1996;

68. *Recalls* that all actions taken to combat threats to maritime security must be in accordance with international law, including the principles embodied in the Charter and the Convention;

69. *Recognizes* the crucial role of international cooperation at the global, regional, subregional and bilateral levels in combating, in accordance with international law, threats to maritime security, including piracy, armed robbery at sea, terrorist acts against shipping, offshore installations and other maritime interests, through bilateral and multilateral instruments and mechanisms aimed at monitoring, preventing and responding to such threats, the enhanced sharing of information among States relevant to the detection, prevention and suppression of such threats, and the prosecution of offenders with due regard to national legislation, and the need for sustained capacity-building to support such objectives;

70. *Notes* that piracy affects the entire range of vessels engaged in maritime activities;

71. *Emphasizes* the importance of promptly reporting incidents to enable accurate information on the scope of the problem of piracy and armed robbery against ships and, in the case of armed robbery against ships, by affected vessels to the coastal State, underlines the importance of effective information-sharing with States potentially affected by incidents of piracy and armed robbery against ships, and takes note of the important role of the International Maritime Organization;

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[107] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1361, No. 23001.

[108] Ibid., vol. 1673, No. 28911.

72. *Calls upon* States to take appropriate steps under their national law to facilitate the apprehension and prosecution of those who are alleged to have committed acts of piracy;

73. *Urges* all States, in cooperation with the International Maritime Organization, to actively combat piracy and armed robbery at sea by adopting measures, including those relating to assistance with capacity-building through training of seafarers, port staff and enforcement personnel in the prevention, reporting and investigation of incidents, bringing the alleged perpetrators to justice, in accordance with international law, and by adopting national legislation, as well as providing enforcement vessels and equipment and guarding against fraudulent ship registration;

74. *Invites* all States, the International Maritime Organization and the International Labour Organization to consider possible solutions for the seafarers and fishers who are victims of pirates;

75. *Takes note* of the ongoing cooperation between the International Maritime Organization, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the Division with respect to the compilation of national legislation on piracy;

76. *Welcomes* the significant decrease in the number of attacks by pirates and armed robbers in the Asian region through increased national, bilateral and trilateral initiatives as well as regional cooperative mechanisms, and calls upon other States to give immediate attention to adopting, concluding and implementing cooperation agreements at the regional level on combating piracy and armed robbery against ships;

77. *Expresses serious concern* regarding continued increases in incidents of piracy and armed robbery at sea off the coast of Somalia, expresses alarm in particular at the hijacking of vessels, supports the recent efforts to address this problem at the global and regional levels, notes the adoption by the Security Council of resolutions 1816 (2008) of 2 June 2008, 1838 (2008) of 7 October 2008, 1846 (2008) of 2 December 2008 and 1851 (2008) of 16 December 2008 and also notes that the authorization in resolution 1816 (2008) and the provisions in resolutions 1838 (2008), 1846 (2008) and 1851 (2008) apply only to the situation in Somalia and do not affect the rights, obligations or responsibilities of Member States under international law, including any rights or obligations under the Convention, with respect to any other situation, and underscores, in particular, the fact that they are not to be considered as establishing customary international law;

78. *Notes* the establishment of the Contact Group on Piracy off the Coast of Somalia on 14 January 2009, following the adoption of Security Council resolution 1851 (2008), and the ongoing efforts within the Contact Group, and commends contributions of all States in the efforts to fight piracy off the coast of Somalia;

79. *Recognizes* the importance of a comprehensive and sustainable settlement of the situation in Somalia and the primary role of the Transitional Federal Government in rooting out piracy and armed robbery against ships, and further re-emphasizes the need, in particular, to assist Somalia and States in the region in strengthening capacity to fight piracy and armed robbery against ships off the coast of Somalia and bring to justice those involved in piracy and armed robbery at sea;

80. *Notes* the approval by the International Maritime Organization of revised recommendations to Governments for preventing and suppressing piracy and armed robbery against ships,[109] revised guidance to shipowners and ship operators, shipmasters and crews on preventing and suppressing acts of piracy and armed robbery against ships[110] and the Code of Practice for the Investigation of the Crimes of Piracy and Armed Robbery Against Ships,[111] as well as the endorsement of Best Management Practices to Deter Piracy in the Gulf of Aden and off the Coast of Somalia;[112]

81. *Invites* the Assembly of the International Maritime Organization to consider adopting a resolution on commitments to best management practices to avoid, deter or delay acts of piracy;

82. *Welcomes* the adoption on 29 January 2009 of the Code of Conduct concerning the Repression of Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in the Western Indian Ocean and the Gulf of Aden (Djibouti Code of Conduct)[113] under the auspices of the International Maritime Organization, the establishment of the International Maritime Organization Djibouti Code Trust Fund, a multi-donor trust fund initiated by Japan, and the ongoing activities for the implementation of the Code of Conduct;

83. *Urges* States to ensure the full implementation of resolution A.1002(25) of the International Maritime Organization on acts of piracy and armed robbery against ships in waters off the coast of Somalia;

84. *Calls upon* States that have not yet done so to become parties to the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Maritime Navigation and the Protocol for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Fixed Platforms Located on the Continental Shelf,[114] invites States to consider becoming parties to the 2005 Protocols amending those instruments,[115] and urges States Parties to take

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[109] See International Maritime Organization, document MSC.1/Circ.1333, annex.

[110] See International Maritime Organization, document MSC.1/Circ.1334, annex.

[111] International Maritime Organization, Assembly resolution A.1025(26).

[112] See International Maritime Organization, document MSC.1/Circ.1335.

[113] See International Maritime Organization, document C 102/14, annex, attachment 1.

[114] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1678, No. 29004.

[115] International Maritime Organization, documents LEG/CONF.15/21 and 22.

appropriate measures to ensure the effective implementation of those instruments through the adoption of legislation, where appropriate;

85. *Calls upon* States to effectively implement the International Ship and Port Facility Security Code and the amendments to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea,[116] and to work with the International Maritime Organization to promote safe and secure shipping while ensuring freedom of navigation;

86. *Urges* all States, in cooperation with the International Maritime Organization, to improve the protection of offshore installations by adopting measures related to the prevention, reporting and investigation of acts of violence against installations, in accordance with international law, and by implementing such measures through national legislation to ensure proper and adequate enforcement;

87. *Emphasizes* the progress in regional cooperation, including the efforts of littoral States, on the enhancement of safety, security and environmental protection in the Straits of Malacca and Singapore, and the effective functioning of the Cooperative Mechanism on safety of navigation and environmental protection to promote dialogue and facilitate close cooperation between the littoral States, user States, shipping industry and other stakeholders in line with article 43 of the Convention, and notes with appreciation the convening of the second Cooperation Forum and second Project Coordination Committee meeting, in Singapore from 14 to 16 October 2009, and the fourth Aids to Navigation Fund Committee Meeting, in Malaysia on 19 and 20 October 2009, the three events being key pillars of the Cooperative Mechanism, and the important role of the Information Sharing Centre of the Regional Cooperation Agreement on Combating Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in Asia, based in Singapore, and calls upon States to give immediate attention to adopting, concluding and implementing cooperation agreements at the regional level;

88. *Recognizes* that some transnational organized criminal activities threaten legitimate uses of the oceans and endanger the lives of people at sea;

89. *Notes* that transnational organized criminal activities are diverse and may be interrelated in some cases and that criminal organizations are adaptive and take advantage of the vulnerabilities of States, in particular coastal and small island developing States in transit areas, and calls upon States and relevant intergovernmental organizations to increase cooperation and coordination at all levels to detect and suppress the smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons, in accordance with international law;

90. *Recognizes* the importance of enhancing international cooperation at all levels to fight transnational organized criminal activities, including illicit traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, within the scope of the United Nations instruments against illicit drug trafficking, as well as the smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons and criminal activities at sea falling within the scope of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime;[117]

91. *Calls upon* States that have not yet done so to become parties to the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[118] and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[119] and to take appropriate measures to ensure their effective implementation;

92. *Calls upon* States to ensure freedom of navigation, the safety of navigation and the rights of transit passage, archipelagic sea lanes passage and innocent passage in accordance with international law, in particular the Convention;

93. *Welcomes* the work of the International Maritime Organization relating to the protection of shipping lanes of strategic importance and significance, and in particular in enhancing safety, security and environmental protection in straits used for international navigation, and calls upon the International Maritime Organization, States bordering straits and user States to continue their cooperation to keep such straits safe, secure and environmentally protected and open to international navigation at all times, consistent with international law, in particular the Convention;

94. *Calls upon* user States and States bordering straits used for international navigation to continue to cooperate by agreement on matters relating to navigational safety, including safety aids for navigation, and the prevention, reduction and control of pollution from ships, and welcomes developments in this regard;

95. *Calls upon* States that have accepted the amendments to regulation XI-1/6 of the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974,[120] to implement the Code of International Standards and Recommended Practices for a Safety Investigation into a Marine Casualty or Marine Incident,[121] which will take effect on 1 January 2010;

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[116] International Maritime Organization, documents SOLAS/CONF.5/32 and 34, as well as resolution MSC.202(81) introducing the long-range identification and tracking of ships system.

[117] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2225, No. 39574.

[118] Ibid., vol. 2241, No. 39574.

[119] Ibid., vol. 2237, No. 39574.

[120] International Maritime Organization, document MSC 84/24/Add.1, annex 3, resolution MSC.257(84).

[121] See International Maritime Organization, document MSC 84/24/Add.1, annex 1, resolution MSC.255(84).

96. *Calls upon* States to consider becoming members of the International Hydrographic Organization, and urges all States to work with that Organization to increase the coverage of hydrographic information on a global basis to enhance capacity-building and technical assistance and to promote safe navigation, especially in areas used for international navigation, in ports and where there are vulnerable or protected marine areas;

97. *Encourages* States to continue their efforts in the implementation of all areas of the Action Plan for the Safety of Transport of Radioactive Material, approved by the Board of Governors of the International Atomic Energy Agency in March 2004;[122]

98. *Notes* that cessation of the transport of radioactive materials through the regions of small island developing States is an ultimate desired goal of small island developing States and some other countries, and recognizes the right of freedom of navigation in accordance with international law; that States should maintain dialogue and consultation, in particular under the auspices of the International Atomic Energy Agency and the International Maritime Organization, with the aim of improved mutual understanding, confidence-building and enhanced communication in relation to the safe maritime transport of radioactive materials; that States involved in the transport of such materials are urged to continue to engage in dialogue with small island developing States and other States to address their concerns; and that these concerns include the further development and strengthening, within the appropriate forums, of international regulatory regimes to enhance safety, disclosure, liability, security and compensation in relation to such transport;

99. *Acknowledges*, in the context of paragraph 98 above, the potential environmental and economic impacts of maritime incidents and accidents on coastal States, in particular those related to the transport of radioactive materials, and emphasizes the importance of effective liability regimes in that regard;

100. *Encourages* States to draw up plans and to establish procedures to implement the Guidelines on Places of Refuge for Ships in Need of Assistance;[123]

101. *Invites* States that have not yet done so to consider becoming parties to the Nairobi International Convention on the Removal of Wrecks, 2007;[124]

102. *Requests* States to take appropriate measures with regard to ships flying their flag or of their registry to address hazards that may be caused by wrecks and drifting or sunken cargo to navigation or the marine environment;

103. *Calls upon* States to ensure that masters on ships flying their flag take the steps required by relevant instruments[125] to provide assistance to persons in distress at sea, and urges States to cooperate and to take all necessary measures to ensure the effective implementation of the amendments to the International Convention on Maritime Search and Rescue[126] and to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea[127] relating to the delivery of persons rescued at sea to a place of safety, as well as of the associated Guidelines on the Treatment of Persons Rescued at Sea;[128]

104. *Recognizes* that all States must fulfil their search and rescue responsibilities and the ongoing need for the International Maritime Organization and other relevant organizations to assist, in particular, developing States both to increase their search and rescue capabilities, including through the establishment of additional rescue coordination centres and regional subcentres, and to take effective action to address, to the extent feasible, the issue of unseaworthy ships and small craft within their national jurisdiction;

105. *Welcomes* the ongoing work of the International Maritime Organization in relation to disembarkation of persons rescued at sea, and notes in this regard the need to implement all relevant international instruments;

106. *Calls upon* States to continue to cooperate in developing comprehensive approaches to international migration and development, including through dialogue on all their aspects;

107. *Reaffirms* that flag, port and coastal States all bear responsibility for ensuring the effective implementation and enforcement of international instruments relating to maritime security and safety, in accordance with international law, in particular the Convention, and that flag States have primary responsibility that requires further strengthening, including through increased transparency of ownership of vessels;

108. *Urges* flag States without an effective maritime administration and appropriate legal frameworks to establish or enhance the necessary infrastructure, legislative and enforcement capabilities to ensure effective compliance with, and implementation and enforcement of, their responsibilities under international law, in particular the Convention, and, until such action is taken, to consider declining the granting of the

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[122] Available from www-ns.iaea.org/downloads/rw/action-plans/transport-action-plan.pdf.

[123] International Maritime Organization, Assembly resolution A.949(23).

[124] International Maritime Organization, document LEG/CONF.16/19.

[125] The International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974, the International Convention on Maritime Search and Rescue, 1979, as amended, the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, 1982, and the International Convention on Salvage, 1989.

[126] International Maritime Organization, document MSC 78/26/Add.1, annex 5, resolution MSC.155(78).

[127] International Maritime Organization, document MSC 78/26/Add.1, annex 3, resolution MSC.153(78).

[128] International Maritime Organization, document MSC 78/26/Add.2, annex 34, resolution MSC.167(78).

right to fly their flag to new vessels, suspending their registry or not opening a registry, and calls upon flag and port States to take all measures consistent with international law necessary to prevent the operation of substandard vessels;

109. *Recognizes* that international shipping rules and standards adopted by the International Maritime Organization in respect of maritime safety, efficiency of navigation and the prevention and control of marine pollution, complemented by best practices of the shipping industry, have led to a significant reduction in maritime accidents and pollution incidents, and encourages all States to participate in the Voluntary International Maritime Organization Member State Audit Scheme;[129]

110. *Also recognizes* that maritime safety can also be improved through effective port State control, the strengthening of regional arrangements and increased coordination and cooperation among them, and increased information-sharing, including among safety and security sectors;

111. *Encourages* flag States to take appropriate measures sufficient to achieve or maintain recognition by intergovernmental arrangements that recognize satisfactory flag State performance, including, as appropriate, satisfactory port State control examination results on a sustained basis, with a view to improving quality shipping and furthering flag State implementation of relevant instruments under the International Maritime Organization as well as relevant goals and objectives of the present resolution;

IX

Marine environment and marine resources

112. *Emphasizes once again* the importance of the implementation of Part XII of the Convention in order to protect and preserve the marine environment and its living marine resources against pollution and physical degradation, and calls upon all States to cooperate and take measures consistent with the Convention, directly or through competent international organizations, for the protection and preservation of the marine environment;

113. *Notes* the work of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, including its findings on the acidification of oceans, and in this regard encourages States and competent international organizations and other relevant institutions, individually and in cooperation, to urgently pursue further research on ocean acidification, especially programmes of observation and measurement, noting in particular paragraph 4 of decision IX/20 adopted at the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, held in Bonn, Germany, from 19 to 30 May 2008,[130] and to increase national, regional and international efforts to address levels of ocean acidity and the negative impact of such acidity on vulnerable marine ecosystems, particularly coral reefs;

114. *Encourages* States, individually or in collaboration with relevant international organizations and bodies, to enhance their scientific activity to better understand the effects of climate change on the marine environment and marine biodiversity and develop ways and means of adaptation;

115. *Encourages* States that have not yet done so to ratify or accede to international agreements addressing the protection and preservation of the marine environment and its living marine resources against the introduction of harmful aquatic organisms and pathogens and marine pollution from all sources, including the dumping of wastes and other matter, and other forms of physical degradation, as well as agreements that provide for preparedness for, response to and cooperation on pollution incidents and that include provisions on liability and compensation for damage resulting from marine pollution, and to adopt the necessary measures consistent with international law, including the Convention, aimed at implementing and enforcing the rules contained in those agreements;

116. *Encourages* States, directly or through competent international organizations, to consider the further development, as appropriate and consistent with international law, including the Convention, of environmental impact assessment processes covering planned activities under their jurisdiction or control that may cause substantial pollution of, or significant and harmful changes to, the marine environment;

117. *Encourages* States to become parties to regional seas conventions addressing the protection and preservation of the marine environment;

118. *Also encourages* States, in accordance with international law, including the Convention and other relevant instruments, either bilaterally or regionally, to jointly develop and promote contingency plans for responding to pollution incidents, as well as other incidents that are likely to have significant adverse effects on the marine environment and biodiversity;

119. *Recognizes* the importance of improving understanding of the impact of climate change on the ocean, and expresses appreciation to the Government of Indonesia for holding the World Ocean Conference in Manado, Indonesia, from 11 to 15 May 2009, at which the Manado Ocean Declaration was adopted;

120. *Welcomes* the activities of the United Nations Environment Programme relating to marine debris carried out in cooperation with relevant United Nations bodies and organizations, and encourages States to further develop partnerships with industry and civil society to raise awareness of the extent of the impact of marine debris on the health and productivity of the marine environment and consequent economic loss;

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[129] International Maritime Organization, Assembly resolution A.946(23).

[130] See UNEP/CBD/COP/9/29, annex I.

121. *Urges* States to integrate the issue of marine debris into national strategies dealing with waste management in the coastal zone, ports and maritime industries, including recycling, reuse, reduction and disposal, and to encourage the development of appropriate economic incentives to address this issue, including the development of cost recovery systems that provide an incentive to use port reception facilities and discourage ships from discharging marine debris at sea, and encourages States to cooperate regionally and subregionally to develop and implement joint prevention and recovery programmes for marine debris;

122. *Notes* the work of the International Maritime Organization to prevent pollution by garbage from ships, including the current review by the Marine Environment Protection Committee of the provisions of annex V to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, as modified by the Protocol of 1978 relating thereto, on the prevention of pollution by garbage from ships, and encourages States and relevant international organizations to contribute to this work through participation in the relevant processes of the Committee;

123. *Encourages* States that have not done so to become parties to the Protocol of 1997 (Annex VI-Regulations for the Prevention of Air Pollution from Ships) to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, as modified by the Protocol of 1978 relating thereto, and the 1996 Protocol to the Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping of Wastes and Other Matter, 1972 ("the London Protocol"), and furthermore to ratify or accede to the International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments, 2004,[131] thereby facilitating its early entry into force;

124. *Takes note* of the adoption of amendments to the Protocol of 1997 to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, as modified by the Protocol of 1978 relating thereto, to reduce harmful emissions from ships;

125. *Notes* the ongoing work of the International Maritime Organization in accordance with its resolution on International Maritime Organization policies and practices related to the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions from ships;[132]

126. *Urges* States to cooperate in correcting the shortfall in port waste reception facilities in accordance with the action plan to address the inadequacy of port waste reception facilities developed by the International Maritime Organization;[133]

127. *Recognizes* that most of the pollution load of the oceans emanates from land-based activities and affects the most productive areas of the marine environment, and calls upon States as a matter of priority to implement the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities[134] and to take all appropriate measures to fulfil the commitments of the international community embodied in the Beijing Declaration on Furthering the Implementation of the Global Programme of Action;[135]

128. *Expresses its concern* regarding the spreading of hypoxic dead zones in oceans as a result of eutrophication fuelled by riverine run-off of fertilizers, sewage outfall and reactive nitrogen resulting from the burning of fossil fuels and resulting in serious consequences for ecosystem functioning, and calls upon States to enhance their efforts to reduce eutrophication and, to this effect, to continue to cooperate within the framework of relevant international organizations, in particular the Global Programme of Action;

129. *Calls upon* all States to ensure that urban and coastal development projects and related land-reclamation activities are carried out in a responsible manner that protects the marine habitat and environment and mitigates the negative consequences of such activities;

130. *Notes* the agreement of the twenty-fifth session of the United Nations Environment Programme Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum, held in Nairobi from 16 to 20 February 2009, on a process and timetable for the negotiation of a global legally binding instrument on mercury to reduce the risks to human health and the environment arising from worldwide emissions and discharges of mercury;[136]

131. *Welcomes* the continued work of States, the United Nations Environment Programme and regional organizations in the implementation of the Global Programme of Action, and encourages increased emphasis on the link between freshwater, the coastal zone and marine resources in the implementation of international development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[86] and of the time-bound targets in the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),[91] in particular the target on sanitation, and the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development;[137]

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[131] International Maritime Organization, document BWM/CONF/36, annex.

[132] International Maritime Organization, Assembly resolution A.963(23).

[133] International Maritime Organization, document MEPC 53/9/1, annex 1.

[134] See A/51/116, annex II.

[135] UNEP/GPA/IGR.2/7, annex V.

[136] See UNEP/GC.25/17, annex I, decision 25/5.

[137] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

132. *Recalls* the resolution of the thirtieth Consultative Meeting of Contracting Parties to the Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping of Wastes and Other Matter, 1972 ("the London Convention") and the third Meeting of Contracting Parties to the London Protocol, held from 27 to 31 October 2008, on the regulation of ocean fertilization,[138] in which the Contracting Parties agreed, inter alia, that the scope of the London Convention and Protocol includes ocean fertilization activities and that, given the present state of knowledge, ocean fertilization activities other than for legitimate scientific research should not be allowed, and that scientific research proposals should be assessed on a case-by-case basis using an assessment framework to be developed by the scientific groups under the London Convention and Protocol, and also agreed that, to this end, such other activities should be considered as contrary to the aims of the London Convention and Protocol and should not currently qualify for any exemption from the definition of dumping in article III, paragraph 1(*b*), of the London Convention and article 1, paragraph 4.2, of the London Protocol;

133. *Also recalls* decision IX/16 C adopted at the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity,[139] in which the Conference of the Parties, inter alia, bearing in mind the ongoing scientific and legal analysis occurring under the auspices of the London Convention and Protocol, requested parties and urged other Governments, in accordance with the precautionary approach, to ensure that ocean fertilization activities were not carried out until there was an adequate scientific basis on which to justify such activities, including an assessment of associated risks, and that a global, transparent and effective control and regulatory mechanism was in place for those activities, with the exception of small-scale scientific research studies within coastal waters, and stated that such studies should be authorized only if justified by the need to gather specific scientific data, should be subject to a thorough prior assessment of the potential impacts of the research studies on the marine environment, should be strictly controlled and should not be used for generating and selling carbon offsets or for any other commercial purposes;

134. *Reaffirms* paragraph 119 of resolution 61/222 of 20 December 2006 regarding ecosystem approaches and oceans, including the proposed elements of an ecosystem approach, means to achieve implementation of an ecosystem approach and requirements for improved application of an ecosystem approach, and in this regard:

(*a*) Notes that continued environmental degradation in many parts of the world and increasing competing demands require an urgent response and the setting of priorities for management actions aimed at conserving ecosystem integrity;

(*b*) Notes that ecosystem approaches to ocean management should be focused on managing human activities in order to maintain and, where needed, restore ecosystem health to sustain goods and environmental services, provide social and economic benefits for food security, sustain livelihoods in support of international development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration, and conserve marine biodiversity;

(*c*) Recalls that States should be guided in the application of ecosystem approaches by a number of existing instruments, in particular the Convention, which sets out the legal framework for all activities in the oceans and seas, and its implementing Agreements, as well as other commitments, such as those contained in the Convention on Biological Diversity[139] and the World Summit on Sustainable Development call for the application of an ecosystem approach by 2010;

(*d*) Encourages States to cooperate and coordinate their efforts and take, individually or jointly, as appropriate, all measures, in conformity with international law, including the Convention and other applicable instruments, to address impacts on marine ecosystems within and beyond areas of national jurisdiction, taking into account the integrity of the ecosystems concerned;

135. *Invites* competent organizations and bodies that have not yet done so to examine the possibility of incorporating ecosystem approaches into their mandates in order to address impacts on marine ecosystems;

136. *Invites* States, in particular those States with advanced technology and marine capabilities, to explore prospects for improving cooperation with, and assistance to, developing States, in particular least developed countries and small island developing States, as well as coastal African States, with a view to better integrating into national policies and programmes sustainable and effective development in the marine sector;

137. *Encourages* the competent international organizations, the United Nations Development Programme, the World Bank and other funding agencies to consider expanding their programmes within their respective fields of competence for assistance to developing countries and to coordinate their efforts, including in the allocation and application of Global Environment Facility funding;

138. *Notes* the information provided in the study prepared by the Secretariat[140] in relation to the assistance available to and measures that may be taken by developing States, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, as well as coastal African States, to

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[138] International Maritime Organization, document LC 30/16, annex 6, resolution LC-LP.1 (2008).

[139] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

[140] A/63/342.

realize the benefits of sustainable and effective development of marine resources and uses of the oceans, as provided by States and competent international organizations and global and regional funding agencies, and urges them to provide further information for the annual report of the Secretary-General and for incorporation on the website of the Division;

139. *Takes note* of the adoption by the International Conference on the Safe and Environmentally Sound Recycling of Ships, held in Hong Kong, China, from 11 to 15 May 2009, of the Hong Kong International Convention for the Safe and Environmentally Sound Recycling of Ships, 2009, and six resolutions related thereto,[141] and encourages States to ratify or accede to this Convention to facilitate its early entry into force;

140. *Also takes note* of the role of the Basel Convention[108] in protecting the marine environment against the adverse effects which may result from such wastes;

X

Marine biodiversity

141. *Reaffirms* its role relating to the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity beyond areas of national jurisdiction, notes the work of States and relevant intergovernmental organizations and bodies on those issues, and invites them to contribute to its consideration of these issues within the areas of their respective competence;

142. *Notes* the discussion on the relevant legal regime on marine genetic resources in areas beyond national jurisdiction in accordance with the Convention, and calls upon States to further consider this issue in the context of the mandate of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Informal Working Group to study issues relating to the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity beyond areas of national jurisdiction ("the Ad Hoc Open-ended Informal Working Group"), with a view to making further progress on this issue;

143. *Recognizes* the abundance and diversity of marine genetic resources and their value in terms of the benefits, goods and services they can provide;

144. *Also recognizes* the importance of research on marine genetic resources for the purpose of enhancing the scientific understanding, potential use and application, and enhanced management of marine ecosystems;

145. *Encourages* States and international organizations, including through bilateral, regional and global cooperation programmes and partnerships, to continue in a sustainable and comprehensive way to support, promote and strengthen capacity-building activities, in particular in developing countries, in the field of marine scientific research, taking into account, in particular, the need to create greater taxonomic capabilities;

146. *Reaffirms its request* to the Secretary-General to convene a meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Informal Working Group in accordance with paragraphs 127 to 130 of resolution 63/111, to take place from 1 to 5 February 2010, to provide recommendations to the General Assembly;

147. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General relating to the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity beyond areas of national jurisdiction, prepared in response to the request contained in paragraph 128 of resolution 63/111;[142]

148. *Invites* States to further consider, at the upcoming meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Informal Working Group, in the context of its mandate, issues of marine protected areas and environmental impact assessment processes;

149. *Notes* the work under the Jakarta Mandate on Marine and Coastal Biological Diversity[143] and the Convention on Biological Diversity elaborated programme of work on marine and coastal biological diversity,[144] as well as the relevant decisions adopted at the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity;[130]

150. *Reaffirms* the need for States, individually or through competent international organizations, to urgently consider ways to integrate and improve, based on the best available scientific information and the precautionary approach and in accordance with the Convention and related agreements and instruments, the management of risks to the marine biodiversity of seamounts, cold water corals, hydrothermal vents and certain other underwater features;

151. *Calls upon* States and international organizations to urgently take further action to address, in accordance with international law, destructive practices that have adverse impacts on marine biodiversity and ecosystems, including seamounts, hydrothermal vents and cold water corals;

152. *Calls upon* States to strengthen, in a manner consistent with international law, in particular the Convention, the conservation and management of marine biodiversity and ecosystems and national policies in relation to marine protected areas;

153. *Reaffirms* the need for States to continue and intensify their efforts, directly and through competent international organizations, to develop and facilitate the use of diverse approaches and tools for conserving and managing vulnerable marine ecosystems, including the possible

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[141] See International Maritime Organization, documents SR/CONF/45 and SR/CONF/46, attachment.

[142] A/64/66/Add.2.

[143] See A/51/312, annex II, decision II/10.

[144] UNEP/CBD/COP/7/21, annex, decision VII/5, annex I.

establishment of marine protected areas, consistent with international law, as reflected in the Convention, and based on the best scientific information available, and the development of representative networks of any such marine protected areas by 2012;

154. *Notes* the work of States, relevant intergovernmental organizations and bodies, including the Convention on Biological Diversity, in the assessment of scientific information on, and compilation of ecological criteria for the identification of, marine areas that require protection, in light of the objective of the World Summit on Sustainable Development to develop and facilitate the use of diverse approaches and tools, such as the establishment of marine protected areas consistent with international law, as reflected in the Convention, and based on scientific information, including representative networks, by 2012,[91] and notes with satisfaction that the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity at its ninth meeting adopted scientific criteria for identifying ecologically or biologically significant marine areas in need of protection in open-ocean waters and deep-sea habitats and the scientific guidance for selecting areas to establish representative networks of marine protected areas, including in open-ocean waters and deep-sea habitats, and took note of the four initial steps to be considered in the development of representative networks of marine protected areas;[145]

155. *Also notes* the work of the expert workshop of the Convention on Biological Diversity on scientific and technical guidance on the use of biogeographic classification systems and identification of marine areas beyond national jurisdiction in need of protection, held in Ottawa from 29 September to 2 October 2009;[146]

156. *Encourages* States to foster progress in the implementation of the 2012 target for the establishment of marine protected areas, including representative networks, and calls upon States to further consider options to identify and protect ecologically or biologically significant areas, consistent with international law and on the basis of the best available scientific information;

157. *Acknowledges* the Micronesia Challenge, the Eastern Tropical Pacific Seascape project, the Caribbean Challenge and the Coral Triangle Initiative, which in particular seek to create and link domestic marine protected areas to better facilitate ecosystem approaches, and reaffirms the need for further international cooperation, coordination and collaboration in support of such initiatives;

158. *Reiterates its support* for the International Coral Reef Initiative, takes note of the International Coral Reef Initiative General Meeting, held in Phuket, Thailand, from 20 to 23 April 2009, and supports the work under the Jakarta Mandate on Marine and Coastal Biological Diversity and the elaborated programme of work on marine and coastal biological diversity related to coral reefs;

159. *Encourages* States and relevant international institutions to improve efforts to address coral bleaching by, inter alia, improving monitoring to predict and identify bleaching events, supporting and strengthening action taken during such events and improving strategies to manage reefs to support their natural resilience and enhance their ability to withstand other pressures, including ocean acidification;

160. *Encourages* States to cooperate, directly or through competent international bodies, in exchanging information in the event of accidents involving vessels on coral reefs and in promoting the development of economic assessment techniques for both restoration and non-use values of coral reef systems;

161. *Emphasizes* the need to mainstream sustainable coral reef management and integrated watershed management into national development strategies, as well as into the activities of relevant United Nations agencies and programmes, international financial institutions and the donor community;

162. *Encourages* further research, studies and consideration of the impacts of ocean noise on marine living resources, and requests the Division to continue to compile the peer-reviewed scientific studies it receives from Member States and intergovernmental organizations pursuant to paragraph 107 of resolution 61/222 and, as appropriate, to make them, or references and links to them, available on its website;

163. *Welcomes* 2010 as the International Year of Biodiversity;[147]

XI

Marine science

164. *Calls upon* States, individually or in collaboration with each other or with relevant international organizations and bodies, to continue to strive to improve understanding and knowledge of the oceans and the deep sea, including, in particular, the extent and vulnerability of deep sea biodiversity and ecosystems, by increasing their marine scientific research activities in accordance with the Convention;

165. *Notes* the contribution of the Census of Marine Life to marine biodiversity research, and encourages participation in the initiative;

166. *Takes note with appreciation* of the work of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, with the advice of the Advisory Body of Experts on the Law of the

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[145] UNEP/CBD/COP/9/29, annex I, decision IX/20, annexes I–III.

[146] See UNEP/CBD/EW-BCS&IMA/1/2.

[147] See resolution 61/203.

Sea, on the development of procedures for the implementation of Parts XIII and XIV of the Convention, and notes further the resolutions adopted by the Oceanographic Commission in this regard;

167. *Encourages* the Advisory Body of Experts to continue its work, in cooperation with the Division, on the practice of Member States related to marine scientific research and transfer of marine technology within the framework of the Convention;

168. *Notes with appreciation* the work carried out by the Group of Experts at its meeting held in New York from 20 to 24 April 2009, to assist the Division in the revision of the publication entitled *Marine Scientific Research: A guide to the implementation of the relevant provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea*,[148] and further notes that, consistent with such work, the revised version is scheduled to be issued as a publication of the United Nations in 2010;

169. *Stresses* the importance of increasing the scientific understanding of the oceans-atmosphere interface, including through participation in ocean observing programmes and geographic information systems, such as the Global Ocean Observing System, sponsored by the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, the United Nations Environment Programme, the World Meteorological Organization and the International Council for Science, particularly considering their role in monitoring and forecasting climate change and variability and in the establishment and operation of tsunami warning systems;

170. *Takes note with appreciation* of the progress made by the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission and Member States towards the establishment of regional and national tsunami warning and mitigation systems, welcomes the continued collaboration of the United Nations and other intergovernmental organizations in this effort, and encourages Member States to establish and sustain their national warning and mitigation systems, within a global, ocean-related multi-hazard approach, as necessary, to reduce loss of life and damage to national economies and strengthen the resilience of coastal communities to natural disasters;

171. *Takes note* of resolution XXV-13 on the global coordination of early warning and mitigation systems for tsunamis and other sea-level-related hazards, adopted by the Assembly of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission at its twenty-fifth session, held in Paris from 16 to 25 June 2009;[149]

172. *Expresses its concern* at the intentional or unintentional damage to platforms used for ocean observation and marine scientific research, such as moored buoys and tsunameters, and urges States to take necessary action and to cooperate in relevant organizations, including the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission and the World Meteorological Organization, to address such damage;

XII

Regular Process for Global Reporting and Assessment of the State of the Marine Environment, including Socio-economic Aspects

173. *Reiterates* the need to strengthen the regular scientific assessment of the state of the marine environment in order to enhance the scientific basis for policymaking;

174. *Notes with appreciation* the report on the "assessment of assessments" of the Group of Experts established pursuant to resolution 60/30,[84] and acknowledges the support of the United Nations Environment Programme and the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, the lead agencies of the "assessment of assessments";

175. *Takes note* of the report on the results of the "assessment of assessments" submitted by the lead agencies pursuant to resolution 60/30, which also includes, in accordance with resolution 63/111, the report of the fourth meeting of the Ad Hoc Steering Group for the "assessment of assessments", held in Paris from 15 to 17 April 2009;[84]

176. *Welcomes* the meeting of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole to recommend a course of action to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session based on the outcomes of the fourth meeting of the Ad Hoc Steering Group, convened in New York from 31 August to 4 September 2009 in accordance with paragraph 157 of resolution 63/111;

177. *Endorses* the recommendations adopted by the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole that propose a framework for the Regular Process, describe its first cycle and a way forward and stress the need for further progress to be made on the modalities for the implementation of the Regular Process prior to the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly;[150]

178. *Requests* the Secretary-General to convene an informal meeting of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole from 30 August to 3 September 2010 to further consider and make recommendations to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session on the modalities for the implementation of the Regular Process, including the key features, institutional arrangements and financing, and to specify the objective and scope of its first cycle, key questions to be answered and primary target audiences, in order to ensure that assessments are relevant for decision-makers, as well as on the terms of

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[148] United Nations publication, Sales No. E.91.V.3.

[149] See Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, *Twenty-fifth Session of the Assembly, Paris, 16–25 June 2009* (IOC-XXV/3), annex II.

[150] See A/64/347, annex.

reference for the voluntary trust fund and the scholarship fund referred to in paragraph 183 below;

179. *Invites* States, as a means to facilitate decisions on the first cycle of the Regular Process, to submit their views to the Secretary-General on the fundamental building blocks of the Regular Process, and requests the Secretary-General to present these views to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session in the context of his annual report on oceans and the law of the sea;

180. *Requests* the Secretary-General to invite the Chairs of the regional groups to constitute a group of experts, ensuring adequate expertise and geographical distribution, comprised of a maximum of 25 experts and no more than 5 experts per regional group, for a period up to and including the informal meeting of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole referred to in paragraph 178 above;

181. *Requests* the group of experts to respond and make suggestions on the issues listed in paragraph 60 of the report on the results of the "assessment of assessments"[151] at the next meeting of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole, including the possibility of conducting preparatory work, as appropriate, and subject to the availability of funds, taking into account the views and observations submitted by States;

182. *Requests* the Division to provide support for the Regular Process as noted in paragraphs 178 to 181 and 183 of the present resolution using existing resources or resources from the voluntary trust fund, in cooperation, as appropriate, with relevant United Nations specialized agencies and programmes;

183. *Requests* the Secretary-General to establish a voluntary trust fund for the purpose of supporting the operations of the first five-year cycle of the Regular Process, including for the provision of assistance to the experts referred to in paragraph 180 above from developing countries, in particular least developed countries, small island developing States and landlocked developing States, attending the meeting of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole in 2010, as well as a special scholarship fund to support training programmes for developing countries, and encourages Member States, international financial institutions, donor agencies, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and natural and juridical persons to contribute to the funds;

XIII

Regional cooperation

184. *Notes* that there have been a number of initiatives at the regional level, in various regions, to further the implementation of the Convention, takes note in that context of the Caribbean-focused Assistance Fund, which is intended to facilitate, mainly through technical assistance, the voluntary undertaking of maritime delimitation negotiations between Caribbean States, takes note once again of the Fund for Peace: Peaceful Settlement of Territorial Disputes, established by the General Assembly of the Organization of American States in 2000 as a primary mechanism, given its broader regional scope, for the prevention and resolution of pending territorial, land border and maritime boundary disputes, and calls upon States and others in a position to do so to contribute to these funds;

XIV

Open-ended Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea

185. *Welcomes* the report on the work of the Consultative Process at its tenth meeting, which focused on the implementation of the outcomes of the Consultative Process, including a review of its achievements and shortcomings in its first nine meetings;[82]

186. *Recognizes* the role of the Consultative Process as a unique forum for comprehensive discussions on issues related to oceans and the law of the sea, consistent with the framework provided by the Convention and chapter 17 of Agenda 21,[35] and that the perspective of the three pillars of sustainable development should be further enhanced in the examination of the selected topics;

187. *Welcomes* the work of the Consultative Process and its contribution to improving coordination and cooperation between States and strengthening the annual debate of the General Assembly on oceans and the law of the sea by effectively drawing attention to key issues and current trends;

188. *Also welcomes* efforts to improve and focus the work of the Consultative Process, and in that respect recognizes the primary role of the Consultative Process in integrating knowledge, the exchange of opinions among multiple stakeholders and coordination among competent agencies, and enhancing awareness of topics, including emerging issues, while promoting the three pillars of sustainable development, and recommends that the Consultative Process devise a transparent, objective and inclusive process for the selection of topics and panellists so as to facilitate the work of the General Assembly during informal consultations concerning the annual resolution on oceans and the law of the sea;

189. *Recalls* the need to strengthen and improve the efficiency of the Consultative Process, and encourages States, intergovernmental organizations and programmes to provide guidance to the Co-Chairs to this effect, particularly before and during the preparatory meeting for the Consultative Process, and recalls its decision in this regard, in resolution 63/111, that the eleventh meeting of the Consultative Process shall be based on the decisions taken by the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session;

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[151] See A/64/88, annex.

190. *Requests* the Secretary-General to convene, in accordance with paragraphs 2 and 3 of resolution 54/33, the eleventh meeting of the Consultative Process, in New York from 21 to 25 June 2010, to provide it with the necessary facilities for the performance of its work and to arrange for support to be provided by the Division, in cooperation with other relevant parts of the Secretariat, as appropriate;

191. *Expresses its serious concern* regarding the lack of resources available in the voluntary trust fund established by resolution 55/7 for the purpose of assisting developing countries, in particular least developed countries, small island developing States and landlocked developing States, in attending the meetings of the Consultative Process, and urges States to make additional contributions to the trust fund;

192. *Decides* that those representatives from developing countries who are invited by the Co-Chairs, in consultation with Governments, to make presentations during the meetings of the Consultative Process shall receive priority consideration in the disbursement of funds from the voluntary trust fund established by resolution 55/7 in order to cover the costs of their travel, and shall also be eligible to receive daily subsistence allowance subject to the availability of funds after the travel costs of all other eligible representatives from those countries mentioned in paragraph 191 above have been covered;

193. *Also decides* that, in its deliberations on the report of the Secretary-General on oceans and the law of the sea, the Consultative Process at its eleventh meeting will focus its discussions on capacity-building in ocean affairs and the law of the sea, including marine science;

XV

Coordination and cooperation

194. *Encourages* States to work closely with and through international organizations, funds and programmes, as well as the specialized agencies of the United Nations system and relevant international conventions, to identify emerging areas of focus for improved coordination and cooperation and how best to address these issues;

195. *Encourages* bodies established by the Convention to strengthen coordination and cooperation, as appropriate, in fulfilling their respective mandates;

196. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of heads of intergovernmental organizations, the specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations engaged in activities relating to ocean affairs and the law of the sea, as well as funding institutions, and underlines the importance of their constructive and timely input for the report of the Secretary-General on oceans and the law of the sea and of their participation in relevant meetings and processes;

197. *Welcomes* the work done by the secretariats of relevant United Nations specialized agencies, programmes, funds and bodies and the secretariats of related organizations and conventions to enhance inter-agency coordination and cooperation on ocean issues, including through UN-Oceans, the inter-agency coordination mechanism on ocean and coastal issues within the United Nations system;

198. *Encourages* continued updates to Member States by UN-Oceans regarding its priorities and initiatives, in particular with respect to the proposed participation in UN-Oceans;

XVI

Activities of the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea

199. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for the annual comprehensive report on oceans and the law of the sea, prepared by the Division, as well as for the other activities of the Division, which reflect the high standard of assistance provided to Member States by the Division;

200. *Notes with satisfaction* the first observance by the United Nations of World Oceans Day on 8 June 2009, and invites the Division to continue to promote and facilitate international cooperation on the law of the sea and ocean affairs in the context of the future observance of World Oceans Day, as well as through its participation in other events such as the World Expo, to be held in Shanghai, China, in 2010, and in Yeosu, Republic of Korea, in 2012, and the European Maritime Day to be celebrated in Gijón, Spain, from 19 to 21 May 2010;

201. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to carry out the responsibilities and functions entrusted to him in the Convention and by the related resolutions of the General Assembly, including resolutions 49/28 and 52/26, and to ensure the allocation of appropriate resources to the Division for the performance of its activities under the approved budget for the Organization;

XVII

Sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly

202. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare a comprehensive report, in its current extensive format and in accordance with established practice, for the consideration of the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session, on developments and issues relating to ocean affairs and the law of the sea, including the implementation of the present resolution, in accordance with resolutions 49/28, 52/26 and 54/33, and to make the section of the report related to the topic that is the focus of the eleventh meeting of the Consultative Process available at least six weeks in advance of the meeting of the Consultative Process;

203. *Emphasizes* the critical role of the annual comprehensive report of the Secretary-General, which integrates information on developments relating to the implementation of the Convention and the work of the Organization, its specialized agencies and other institutions in the field of ocean affairs and the law of the sea at the global and regional levels, and as a result constitutes the basis for the annual consideration and review of developments relating to ocean affairs and the law of the sea by the General Assembly as the global institution having the competence to undertake such a review;

204. *Notes* that the report referred to in paragraph 202 above will also be submitted to States Parties pursuant to article 319 of the Convention regarding issues of a general nature that have arisen with respect to the Convention;

205. *Also notes* the desire to further improve the efficiency of, and effective participation of delegations in, the informal consultations concerning the annual General Assembly resolution on oceans and the law of the sea and the resolution on sustainable fisheries, decides that the period of the informal consultations on both resolutions should not exceed a maximum of four weeks in total and that the consultations should be scheduled in such a way that the Division has sufficient time to produce the report referred to in paragraph 202 above, and invites States to submit text proposals for inclusion in the resolutions to the coordinators of the informal consultations at the earliest possible date;

206. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled "Oceans and the law of the sea".

RESOLUTION 64/72

Adopted at the 58th plenary meeting, on 4 December 2009, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/64/L.29 and Add.1, sponsored by: Albania, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Cape Verde, Cyprus, Finland, Greece, Iceland, Kenya, Malta, Monaco, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Philippines, Portugal, Slovenia, Sweden, Trinidad and Tobago, Ukraine, United States of America

64/72. Sustainable fisheries, including through the 1995 Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks, and related instruments

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its annual resolutions on sustainable fisheries, including resolution 63/112 of 5 December 2008, and other relevant resolutions,

Recalling the relevant provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea ("the Convention"),[152] and bearing in mind the relationship between the Convention and the 1995 Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks ("the Agreement"),[153]

Welcoming the recent ratifications of and accessions to the Agreement and the fact that a growing number of States, and entities referred to in the Convention and in article 1, paragraph 2 (*b*), of the Agreement, as well as subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, have taken measures, as appropriate, towards the implementation of the provisions of the Agreement,

Welcoming also the work of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and its Committee on Fisheries and the 2005 Rome Declaration on Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing, adopted on 12 March 2005,[154] and recognizing that the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations ("the Code")[155] and its associated international plans of action set out principles and global standards of behaviour for responsible practices for conservation of fisheries resources and the management and development of fisheries,

Welcoming further the outcomes, including the decisions and recommendations, of the twenty-eighth session of the Committee on Fisheries of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, held from 2 to 6 March 2009,[156]

Noting with concern that effective management of marine capture fisheries has been made difficult in some areas by unreliable information and data caused by, inter alia, unreported and misreported fish catch and fishing effort and that this lack of accurate data contributes to overfishing in some areas,

Recognizing the significant contribution of sustainable fisheries to food security, income, wealth and poverty alleviation for present and future generations,

Recognizing also the urgent need for action at all levels to ensure the long-term sustainable use and management of fisheries resources through the wide application of the precautionary approach and ecosystem approaches,

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[152] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1833, No. 31363.

[153] Ibid., vol. 2167, No. 37924.

[154] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, *Outcome of the Ministerial Meeting on Fisheries, Rome, 12 March 2005* (CL 128/INF/11), appendix B.

[155] *International Fisheries Instruments with Index* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.98.V.11), sect. III.

[156] See Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, *Report of the twenty-eighth session of the Committee on Fisheries, Rome, 2–6 March 2009*, FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Report No. 902 (FIEL/902 (En)).

Expressing concern over the current and projected adverse effects of climate change on food security and the sustainability of fisheries, and noting in that regard the work of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the United Nations Environment Programme,

Deploring the fact that fish stocks, including straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks, in many parts of the world are overfished or subject to sparsely regulated and heavy fishing efforts, as a result of, inter alia, illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, inadequate flag State control and enforcement, including monitoring, control and surveillance measures, inadequate regulatory measures, harmful fisheries subsidies and overcapacity, as well as inadequate port State control, as highlighted in the report of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, *The State of World Fisheries and Aquaculture 2008*,[157]

Concerned that a limited number of States have taken measures to implement, individually and through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, the International Plan of Action for the Management of Fishing Capacity adopted by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations,[158]

Recalling the International Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing, adopted by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations,[158]

Particularly concerned that illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing constitutes a serious threat to fish stocks and marine habitats and ecosystems, to the detriment of sustainable fisheries as well as the food security and the economies of many States, particularly developing States,

Concerned that some operators increasingly take advantage of the globalization of fishery markets to trade fishery products stemming from illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and make economic profits from those operations, which constitutes an incentive for them to pursue their activities,

Recognizing that effective deterrence and combating of illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing has significant financial and other resource implications,

Recognizing also the duty provided in the Convention, the Agreement to Promote Compliance with International Conservation and Management Measures by Fishing Vessels on the High Seas ("the Compliance Agreement"),[159] the Agreement and the Code for flag States to exercise effective control over fishing vessels flying their flag, and vessels flying their flag which provide support to fishing vessels, to ensure that the activities of such fishing and support vessels do not undermine the effectiveness of conservation and management measures taken in accordance with international law and adopted at the national, subregional, regional or global levels,

Recalling paragraph 46 of its resolution 63/112, and welcoming in this regard the convening by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations of the Expert Consultation on Flag State Performance, held in Rome from 23 to 26 June 2009,

Noting the obligation of all States, in accordance with international law, as reflected in the relevant provisions of the Convention, to cooperate in the conservation and management of living marine resources, and recognizing the importance of coordination and cooperation at the global, regional, subregional as well as national levels in the areas, inter alia, of marine scientific research, data collection, information-sharing, capacity-building and training for the conservation, management and sustainable development of marine living resources,

Acknowledging the importance of ocean data buoy systems moored in areas beyond national jurisdiction to sustainable development, promoting safety at sea and limiting human vulnerability to natural disasters, due to their use in weather and marine forecasts, fisheries management, tsunami forecasts and climate prediction, and expressing concern that most damage to ocean data buoys, such as moored buoys and tsunameters, frequently results from actions taken by some fishing operations which render the buoys inoperable,

Recognizing the need for States, individually and through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to continue to develop and implement, consistent with international law, effective port State measures to combat overfishing and illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, the critical need for cooperation with developing States to build their capacity, and the importance of cooperation between the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the International Maritime Organization in this regard,

Welcoming, in this regard, the approval by the Conference of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations of the Agreement on Port State Measures to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing[160] and its opening for signature on 22 November 2009,

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[157] Available from www.fao.org/corp/publications/en.

[158] Available from www.fao.org/fishery/publications/en.

[159] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2221, No. 39486.

[160] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, *Report of the Conference of FAO, Thirty-sixth Session, Rome, 18–23 November 2009* (C 2009/REP and Corr.1), appendix E.

Concerned that marine pollution from all sources, including vessels and, in particular, land-based sources, constitutes a serious threat to human health and safety, endangers fish stocks, marine biodiversity and marine and coastal habitats and has significant costs to local and national economies,

Recognizing that marine debris is a global transboundary pollution problem and that, due to the many different types and sources of marine debris, different approaches to their prevention and removal are necessary,

Noting that the contribution of sustainable aquaculture to global fish supplies continues to respond to opportunities in developing countries to enhance local food security and poverty alleviation and, together with the efforts of other aquaculture producing countries, will make a significant contribution to meeting future demands in fish consumption, bearing in mind article 9 of the Code,

Calling attention to the circumstances affecting fisheries in many developing States, in particular African States and small island developing States, and recognizing the urgent need for capacity-building, including the transfer of marine technology and in particular fisheries-related technology, to enhance the ability of such States to meet their obligations and exercise their rights under international instruments, in order to realize the benefits from fisheries resources,

Recognizing the need for appropriate measures to minimize by-catch, waste, discards, including high-grading, loss of fishing gear and other factors which adversely affect fish stocks and may also have undesirable effects on the economies and food security of small island developing States, other developing coastal States, and subsistence fishing communities,

Recognizing also the need to further integrate ecosystem approaches into fisheries conservation and management and, more generally, the importance of applying ecosystem approaches to the management of human activities in the ocean, and noting in this regard the Reykjavik Declaration on Responsible Fisheries in the Marine Ecosystem,[161] the work of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations related to guidelines for the implementation of the ecosystem approach to fisheries management and the importance of this approach to relevant provisions of the Agreement and the Code, as well as decision VII/11[162] and other relevant decisions of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity,

Recognizing further the economic and cultural importance of sharks in many countries, the biological importance of sharks in the marine ecosystem as key predatory species, the vulnerability of certain shark species to overexploitation, the fact that some are threatened with extinction, the need for measures to promote the long-term conservation, management and sustainable use of shark populations and fisheries, and the relevance of the International Plan of Action for the Conservation and Management of Sharks, adopted by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in 1999,[158] in providing guidance on the development of such measures,

Reaffirming its support for the initiative of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and relevant subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements on the conservation and management of sharks, and noting with concern that basic data on shark stocks and harvests continue to be lacking, that only a small number of countries have implemented the International Plan of Action for the Conservation and Management of Sharks, and that not all regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements have adopted conservation and management measures for directed shark fisheries and for the regulation of by-catch of sharks from other fisheries,

Expressing concern that, despite the adoption of General Assembly resolution 46/215 of 20 December 1991, the practice of large-scale pelagic drift-net fishing still exists and remains a threat to marine living resources,

Expressing concern also over reports of continued losses of seabirds, particularly albatrosses and petrels, as well as other marine species, including sharks, fin-fish species and marine turtles, as a result of incidental mortality in fishing operations, particularly longline fishing, and other activities, while recognizing considerable efforts by States and through various regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to reduce by-catch in longline fishing,

I

Achieving sustainable fisheries

1. *Reaffirms* the importance it attaches to the long-term conservation, management and sustainable use of the marine living resources of the world's oceans and seas and the obligations of States to cooperate to this end, in accordance with international law, as reflected in the relevant provisions of the Convention,[152] in particular the provisions on cooperation set out in Part V and Part VII, section 2, of the Convention, and where applicable, the Agreement;[153]

2. *Encourages* States to give due priority to the implementation of the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation")[163] in relation to achieving sustainable

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[161] E/CN.17/2002/PC.2/3, annex.

[162] See UNEP/CBD/COP/7/21, annex.

[163] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

fisheries, especially restoring depleted stocks to levels that can produce maximum sustainable yield on an urgent basis and, where possible, not later than 2015;

3. *Urges* States, either directly or through appropriate subregional, regional or global organizations or arrangements, to intensify efforts to assess and address, as appropriate, the impacts of global climate change on the sustainability of fish stocks and the habitats that support them;

4. *Emphasizes* the obligations of flag States to discharge their responsibilities, in accordance with the Convention and the Agreement, to ensure compliance by vessels flying their flag with the conservation and management measures adopted and in force with respect to fisheries resources on the high seas;

5. *Calls upon* all States that have not done so, in order to achieve the goal of universal participation, to become parties to the Convention, which sets out the legal framework within which all activities in the oceans and seas must be carried out, taking into account the relationship between the Convention and the Agreement;

6. *Calls upon* all States, directly or through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to apply widely, in accordance with international law and the Code,[155] the precautionary approach and ecosystem approaches to the conservation, management and exploitation of fish stocks, and also calls upon States parties to the Agreement to implement fully the provisions of article 6 of the Agreement as a matter of priority;

7. *Encourages* States to increase their reliance on scientific advice in developing, adopting and implementing conservation and management measures, and to increase their efforts to promote science for conservation and management measures, including through international cooperation, that apply, in accordance with international law, the precautionary approach and ecosystem approaches to fisheries management, enhancing understanding of ecosystem approaches, in order to ensure the long-term conservation and sustainable use of marine living resources, and in this regard encourages the implementation of the Strategy for Improving Information on Status and Trends of Capture Fisheries of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations[164] as a framework for the improvement and understanding of fishery status and trends;

8. *Calls upon* all States, directly or through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to apply stock-specific precautionary reference points, as described in Annex II to the Agreement and in the Code, to ensure that populations of harvested stocks, and, where necessary, associated or dependent species, are maintained at, or restored to, sustainable levels, and to use these reference points for triggering conservation and management action;

9. *Encourages* States to apply the precautionary approach and ecosystem approaches in adopting and implementing conservation and management measures addressing, inter alia, by-catch, pollution and overfishing, and protecting habitats of specific concern, taking into account existing guidelines developed by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;

10. *Also encourages* States to enhance or develop observer programmes individually or through regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements in order to improve data collection on, inter alia, target and by-catch species, which could also assist monitoring, control and surveillance tools, and to take into account standards, forms of cooperation and other existing structures for such programmes as described in article 25 of the Agreement and article 5 of the Code;

11. *Calls upon* States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to collect and, where appropriate, report to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations required catch and effort data, and fishery-related information, in a complete, accurate and timely way, including for straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks within and beyond areas under national jurisdiction, discrete high seas fish stocks, and by-catch and discards; and, where they do not exist, to establish processes to strengthen data collection and reporting by members of regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, including through regular reviews of member compliance with such obligations, and, when such obligations are not met, require the member concerned to rectify the problem, including through the preparation of plans of action with timelines;

12. *Invites* States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to cooperate with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in the implementation and further development of the Fisheries Resources Monitoring System initiative;

13. *Reaffirms* paragraph 10 of resolution 61/105 of 8 December 2006, and calls upon States, including through regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements, to urgently adopt measures to fully implement the International Plan of Action for the Conservation and Management of Sharks[158] for directed and non-directed shark fisheries, based on the best available scientific information, through, inter alia, limits on catch or fishing effort, by requiring that vessels flying their flag collect and regularly report data on shark catches, including species-specific data, discards and landings, undertaking, including through international cooperation, comprehensive stock assessments of sharks, reducing shark by-catch and by-catch mortality, and, where scientific information is uncertain or inadequate, not increasing fishing effort in directed shark fisheries until measures have been established to

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[164] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, *Report of the twenty-fifth session of the Committee on Fisheries, Rome, 24–28 February 2003*, FAO Fisheries Report No. 702 (FIPL/R702 (En)), appendix H.

ensure the long-term conservation, management and sustainable use of shark stocks and to prevent further declines of vulnerable or threatened shark stocks;

14. *Calls upon* States to take immediate and concerted action to improve the implementation of and compliance with existing regional fisheries management organization or arrangement and national measures that regulate shark fisheries, in particular those measures which prohibit or restrict fisheries conducted solely for the purpose of harvesting shark fins, and, where necessary, to consider taking other measures, as appropriate, such as requiring that all sharks be landed with each fin naturally attached;

15. *Calls upon* regional fisheries management organizations with the competence to regulate highly migratory species to strengthen or establish precautionary, science-based conservation and management measures, as appropriate, for sharks taken in fisheries within their convention areas consistent with the International Plan of Action for the Conservation and Management of Sharks, taking into account the Course of Actions adopted at the second joint meeting of tuna regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, held in San Sebastian, Spain, from 29 June to 3 July 2009;

16. *Reiterates its request* to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to prepare a report containing a comprehensive analysis of the implementation of the International Plan of Action for the Conservation and Management of Sharks, as well as progress in implementing paragraph 11 of General Assembly resolution 62/177 of 18 December 2007;

17. *Urges* States to eliminate barriers to trade in fish and fisheries products which are not consistent with their rights and obligations under the World Trade Organization agreements, taking into account the importance of the trade in fish and fisheries products, particularly for developing countries;

18. *Urges* States and relevant international and national organizations to provide for the participation of small-scale fishery stakeholders in related policy development and fisheries management strategies in order to achieve long-term sustainability for such fisheries, consistent with the duty to ensure the proper conservation and management of fisheries resources;

II

Implementation of the 1995 Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks

19. *Calls upon* all States, and entities referred to in the Convention and in article 1, paragraph 2 (*b*), of the Agreement, that have not done so to ratify or accede to the Agreement and in the interim to consider applying it provisionally;

20. *Calls upon* States parties to the Agreement to effectively implement, as a matter of priority, the provisions of the Agreement through their domestic legislation and through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements in which they participate;

21. *Emphasizes* the importance of those provisions of the Agreement relating to bilateral, subregional and regional cooperation in enforcement, and urges continued efforts in this regard;

22. *Urges* States parties to the Agreement, in accordance with article 21, paragraph 4, thereof to inform, either directly or through the relevant subregional or regional fisheries management organization or arrangement, all States whose vessels fish on the high seas in the same subregion or region of the form of identification issued by those States parties to officials duly authorized to carry out boarding and inspection functions in accordance with articles 21 and 22 of the Agreement;

23. *Also urges* States parties to the Agreement, in accordance with article 21, paragraph 4, thereof, to designate an appropriate authority to receive notifications pursuant to article 21 and to give due publicity to such designation through the relevant subregional or regional fisheries management organization or arrangement;

24. *Invites* regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements which have not yet done so to adopt procedures for high seas boarding and inspection that are consistent with articles 21 and 22 of the Agreement;

25. *Calls upon* States, individually and, as appropriate, through subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements with competence over discrete high seas fish stocks, to adopt the necessary measures to ensure the long-term conservation, management and sustainable use of such stocks in accordance with the Convention and consistent with the Code and the general principles set forth in the Agreement;

26. *Invites* States to assist developing States in enhancing their participation in regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements, including by facilitating access to fisheries for straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks, in accordance with article 25, paragraph 1 (*b*), of the Agreement, taking into account the need to ensure that such access benefits the developing States concerned and their nationals;

27. *Invites* States and international financial institutions and organizations of the United Nations system to provide assistance according to Part VII of the Agreement, including, if appropriate, the development of special financial mechanisms or instruments to assist developing States, in particular the least developed among them and small island developing States, to enable them to develop their national capacity to exploit fishery resources, including developing their domestically flagged

fishing fleet, value-added processing and the expansion of their economic base in the fishing industry, consistent with the duty to ensure the proper conservation and management of fisheries resources;

28. *Notes with appreciation* the contributions made by States to the Assistance Fund established under Part VII of the Agreement, and encourages States, intergovernmental organizations, international financial institutions, national institutions and non-governmental organizations, as well as natural and juridical persons, to make further voluntary financial contributions to the Fund;

29. *Notes with satisfaction* that the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea of the Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat ("the Division") have taken measures to publicize the availability of assistance through the Assistance Fund, and encourages the Organization and the Division to continue their efforts in this regard;

30. *Encourages* accelerated progress by States, individually and, as appropriate, through subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, regarding the recommendations of the Review Conference on the Agreement, held in New York from 22 to 26 May 2006,[188] and the identification of emerging priorities;

31. *Recalls* paragraph 31 of resolution 63/112 concerning the request to the Secretary-General to resume the Review Conference, convened pursuant to article 36 of the Agreement, which will be held in New York from 24 to 28 May 2010;

32. *Encourages* wide participation in the resumed Review Conference, in accordance with article 36 of the Agreement;

33. *Takes note* of the report of the eighth round of informal consultations of States parties to the Agreement,[189] and requests that the Secretary-General, in preparing, in cooperation with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the updated comprehensive report referred to in paragraph 32 of resolution 63/112, take into account the specific guidance proposed by the eighth round of informal consultations regarding that report;

34. *Recalls* paragraph 6 of resolution 56/13 of 28 November 2001, and requests the Secretary-General to convene in March 2010 a ninth round of informal consultations of States parties to the Agreement for a duration of two days, to serve primarily as a preparatory meeting for the resumed Review Conference;

35. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare a draft provisional agenda and draft organization of work for the resumed Review Conference and to circulate them at the same time as the provisional agenda of the ninth round of informal consultations of States parties to the Agreement, sixty days in advance of these consultations;

36. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to invite States, and entities referred to in the Convention and in article 1, paragraph 2 (*b*), of the Agreement, not parties to the Agreement, as well as the United Nations Development Programme, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and other specialized agencies, the Commission on Sustainable Development, the World Bank, the Global Environment Facility and other relevant international financial institutions, subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, other fisheries bodies, other relevant intergovernmental bodies and relevant non-governmental organizations, in accordance with past practice, to attend the ninth round of informal consultations of States parties to the Agreement as observers;

37. *Reaffirms its request* that the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations initiate arrangements with States for the collection and dissemination of data on fishing in the high seas by vessels flying their flag at the subregional and regional levels where no such arrangements exist;

38. *Reaffirms its request* that the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations revise its global fisheries statistics database to provide information on straddling fish stocks, highly migratory fish stocks and discrete high seas fish stocks on the basis of where the catch is taken;

III

Related fisheries instruments

39. *Emphasizes* the importance of the effective implementation of the provisions of the Compliance Agreement,[190] and urges continued efforts in this regard;

40. *Calls upon* all States and other entities referred to in article X, paragraph 1, of the Compliance Agreement that have not yet become parties to that Agreement to do so as a matter of priority and, in the interim, to consider applying it provisionally;

41. *Urges* States and subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to implement and promote the application of the Code within their areas of competence;

42. *Urges* States to develop and implement, as a matter of priority, national and, as appropriate, regional plans of action to put into effect the international plans of action of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;

43. *Encourages* the development of best practice guidelines for safety at sea in connection with marine fisheries by the competent international organizations;

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[188] See A/CONF.210/2006/15.

[189] ICSP8/UNFSA/REP/INF.6.

IV

Illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing

44. *Emphasizes once again its serious concern* that illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing remains one of the greatest threats to marine ecosystems and continues to have serious and major implications for the conservation and management of ocean resources, and renews its call upon States to comply fully with all existing obligations and to combat such fishing and urgently to take all necessary steps to implement the International Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;[158]

45. *Urges* States to exercise effective control over their nationals, including beneficial owners, and vessels flying their flag, in order to prevent and deter them from engaging in illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing activities or supporting vessels engaging in illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing activities, including those vessels listed by regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements as engaged in those activities, and to facilitate mutual assistance to ensure that such actions can be investigated and proper sanctions imposed;

46. *Also urges* States to take effective measures, at the national, subregional, regional and global levels, to deter the activities, including illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, of any vessel which undermines conservation and management measures that have been adopted by subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements in accordance with international law;

47. *Calls upon* States not to permit vessels flying their flag to engage in fishing on the high seas or in areas under the national jurisdiction of other States, unless duly authorized by the authorities of the States concerned and in accordance with the conditions set out in the authorization, and to take specific measures, including deterring the reflagging of vessels by their nationals, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Convention, the Agreement and the Compliance Agreement, to control fishing operations by vessels flying their flag;

48. *Urges* States, individually and collectively through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to develop appropriate processes to assess the performance of States with respect to implementing the obligations regarding fishing vessels flying their flag set out in relevant international instruments;

49. *Encourages* the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to continue its work on flag State performance, including the possible convening of a technical consultation;

50. *Reaffirms* the need to strengthen, where necessary, the international legal framework for intergovernmental cooperation, in particular at the subregional and regional levels, in the management of fish stocks and in combating illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, in a manner consistent with international law, and for States and entities referred to in the Convention and in article 1, paragraph 2 (*b*), of the Agreement to collaborate in efforts to address these types of fishing activities;

51. *Urges* regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to further coordinate measures for combating illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing activities, such as through the development of a common list of vessels identified as engaged in illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing or the mutual recognition of the illegal, unreported and unregulated vessel lists established by each organization or arrangement;

52. *Reaffirms its call upon* States to take all necessary measures consistent with international law, without prejudice to a State's sovereignty over ports in its territory and to reasons of force majeure or distress, including the prohibition of vessels from accessing their ports followed by a report to the flag State concerned, when there is clear evidence that they are or have been engaged in or have supported illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, or when they refuse to give information either on the origin of the catch or on the authorization under which the catch has been made;

53. *Urges* enhanced action consistent with international law, including cooperation and coordination, to eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing by vessels flying "flags of convenience", to require that a "genuine link" be established between States and fishing vessels flying their flags, and to clarify the role of the "genuine link" in relation to the duty of States to exercise effective control over such vessels, and calls upon States to implement the 2005 Rome Declaration on Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing[159] as a matter of priority;

54. *Recognizes* the need for enhanced port State measures to combat illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, and urges States to cooperate, in particular at the regional level and through subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to adopt all necessary port measures, consistent with international law taking into account article 23 of the Agreement, and to further promote the development and application of standards at the regional level;

55. *Encourages*, in this regard, States to consider signing and ratifying, accepting, approving or acceding to the Agreement on Port State Measures to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations[160] with a view to its early entry into force;

56. *Encourages* strengthened collaboration between the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the International Maritime Organization, taking into account the respective competencies, mandates and experience of the two organizations, to combat illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, particularly in improving the implementation of flag State responsibilities and port State measures.

57. *Encourages* States, with respect to vessels flying their flag, and port States, to make every effort to share data on landings and catch quotas, and in this regard encourages regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements to consider developing open databases containing such data for the purpose of enhancing the effectiveness of fisheries management;

58. *Calls upon* States to take all necessary measures to ensure that vessels flying their flag do not engage in transshipment of fish caught by fishing vessels engaged in illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing;

59. *Urges* States, individually and through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to adopt and implement internationally agreed market-related measures in accordance with international law, including principles, rights and obligations established in World Trade Organization agreements, as called for in the International Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing;

60. *Encourages* information-sharing regarding emerging market- and trade-related measures by States and other relevant actors with appropriate international forums, given the potential implications of these measures for all States, consistent with the established plan of work of the Committee on Fisheries of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, and taking into account the Technical Guidelines for Responsible Fish Trade of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;[167]

61. *Notes* the concerns about possible connections between international organized crime and illegal fishing in certain regions of the world, and encourages States, including through the appropriate international forums and organizations, to study the causes and methods of and contributing factors to illegal fishing to increase knowledge and understanding of those possible connections, and to make the findings publicly available, bearing in mind the distinct legal regimes and remedies under international law applicable to illegal fishing and international organized crime;

V

Monitoring, control and surveillance and compliance and enforcement

62. *Calls upon* States, in accordance with international law, to strengthen implementation of or, where they do not exist, adopt comprehensive monitoring, control and surveillance measures and compliance and enforcement schemes individually and within those regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements in which they participate, in order to provide an appropriate framework for promoting compliance with agreed conservation and management measures, and further urges enhanced coordination among all relevant States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements in these efforts;

63. *Encourages* further work by competent international organizations, including the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to develop guidelines on flag State control of fishing vessels;

64. *Urges* States, individually and through relevant regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to establish mandatory vessel monitoring, control and surveillance systems, in particular to require that vessel monitoring systems be carried by all vessels fishing on the high seas as soon as practicable, recalling that paragraph 62 of resolution 63/112 urged that large-scale fishing vessels be required to carry vessel monitoring systems no later than December 2008, and to share information on fisheries enforcement matters;

65. *Calls upon* States, individually and through regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements, to strengthen or establish, consistent with national and international law, positive or negative lists of vessels fishing within the areas covered by relevant regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements in order to promote compliance with conservation and management measures and to identify products from illegal, unreported and unregulated catches, and encourages improved coordination among all States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements in sharing and using this information, taking into account the forms of cooperation with developing States as set out in article 25 of the Agreement;

66. *Welcomes* the decision of the Committee on Fisheries at its twenty-eighth session that the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations should develop a comprehensive global record of fishing vessels, refrigerated transport vessels, and supply vessels;[156]

67. *Requests* States and relevant international bodies to develop, in accordance with international law, more effective measures to trace fish and fishery products to enable importing States to identify fish or fishery products caught in a manner that undermines international conservation and management measures agreed in accordance with international law, taking into account the special requirements of developing States and the forms of cooperation with developing States as set out in article 25 of the Agreement, and at the same time to recognize the importance of market access, in accordance with provisions 11.2.4, 11.2.5 and 11.2.6 of the Code, for fish and fishery products caught in a manner that is in conformity with such international measures;

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[167] Available from www.fao.org/fishery/publications/technical-guidelines/en.

68. *Requests* States to take the necessary measures, consistent with international law, to help to prevent fish and fishery products caught in a manner that undermines applicable conservation and management measures adopted in accordance with international law from entering international trade;

69. *Welcomes* the decision of the Committee on Fisheries at its twenty-eighth session that the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations should develop best practice guidelines for catch documentation schemes and for traceability for consideration by the Sub-Committee on Fish Trade at its next session;[156]

70. *Encourages* States to establish and undertake cooperative surveillance and enforcement activities in accordance with international law to strengthen and enhance efforts to ensure compliance with conservation and management measures, and prevent and deter illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing;

71. *Urges* States, directly and through regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements, to develop and adopt effective monitoring, control and surveillance measures for trans-shipment, as appropriate, in particular at-sea trans-shipment, in order to, inter alia, monitor compliance, collect and verify fisheries data, and to prevent and suppress illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing activities, in accordance with international law; and, in parallel, to encourage and support the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in studying the current practices of trans-shipment and produce a set of guidelines for this purpose;

72. *Expresses its appreciation* for financial contributions from States to improve the capacity of the existing voluntary International Monitoring, Control and Surveillance Network for Fisheries-Related Activities, and encourages States to join and actively participate in the Network and to consider supporting, when appropriate, its transformation in accordance with international law into an international unit with dedicated resources to further assist Network members, taking into account the forms of cooperation with developing States as set out in article 25 of the Agreement;

VI

Fishing overcapacity

73. *Calls upon* States to commit themselves to urgently reducing the capacity of the world's fishing fleets to levels commensurate with the sustainability of fish stocks, through the establishment of target levels and plans or other appropriate mechanisms for ongoing capacity assessment, while avoiding the transfer of fishing capacity to other fisheries or areas in a manner that undermines the sustainable management of fish stocks, including, inter alia, those areas where fish stocks are overexploited or in a depleted condition, and recognizing in this context the legitimate rights of developing States to develop their fisheries for straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks consistent with article 25 of the Agreement, article 5 of the Code, and paragraph 10 of the International Plan of Action for the Management of Fishing Capacity;[158]

74. *Reiterates its call upon* States, individually and through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to ensure that the urgent actions required in the International Plan of Action for the Management of Fishing Capacity are undertaken expeditiously and that its implementation is facilitated without delay;

75. *Invites* the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to report on the state of progress in the implementation of the International Plan of Action for the Management of Fishing Capacity, as provided for in paragraph 48 of the Plan of Action;

76. *Notes* that the second joint meeting of the five regional fisheries management organizations with competence to regulate highly migratory species, held in San Sebastian, Spain, from 29 June to 3 July 2009, agreed, in its Course of Actions, that global fishing capacity for tunas had to be addressed urgently and, inter alia, in a way which recognized the legitimate rights of developing States, in particular small island developing States, to participate in and benefit from such fisheries;

77. *Encourages* those States which are cooperating to establish subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, taking into account the best scientific information available as well as the precautionary approach, to exercise voluntary restraint of fishing effort levels in those areas that will come under the regulation of the future organizations and arrangements until adequate regional conservation and management measures are adopted and implemented, taking into account the need to ensure the long-term conservation, management and sustainable use of the relevant fish stocks and to prevent significant adverse impacts on vulnerable marine ecosystems;

78. *Urges* States to eliminate subsidies that contribute to overfishing and overcapacity and to illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, including through completion of World Trade Organization negotiations on fisheries subsidies in accordance with the 2001 Doha Ministerial Declaration[168] and the 2005 Hong Kong Ministerial Declaration[169] to strengthen disciplines on fisheries subsidies, taking into account the importance of the fisheries sector, including small-scale and artisanal fisheries, to developing countries;

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[168] A/C.2/56/7, annex.

[169] World Trade Organization, document WT/MIN(05)/DEC. Available from http://docsonline.wto.org.

VII

Large-scale pelagic drift-net fishing

79. *Reaffirms* the importance it attaches to continued compliance with its resolution 46/215 and other subsequent resolutions on large-scale pelagic drift-net fishing, and urges States and entities referred to in the Convention and in article 1, paragraph 2 (*b*), of the Agreement to enforce fully the measures recommended in those resolutions in order to eliminate the use of large-scale pelagic drift nets in all seas and oceans, which means that efforts to implement resolution 46/215 should not result in the transfer to other parts of the world of drift nets that contravene the resolution;

VIII

Fisheries by-catch and discards

80. *Urges* States, subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements and other relevant international organizations that have not done so to take action, including with consideration of the interests of developing coastal States and, as appropriate, subsistence fishing communities, to reduce or eliminate by-catch, catch by lost or abandoned gear, fish discards and post-harvest losses, including juvenile fish, consistent with international law and relevant international instruments, including the Code, and in particular to consider measures including, as appropriate, technical measures related to fish size, mesh size or gear, discards, closed seasons and areas and zones reserved for selected fisheries, particularly artisanal fisheries, the establishment of mechanisms for communicating information on areas of high concentration of juvenile fish, taking into account the importance of ensuring the confidentiality of such information, and support for studies and research that will reduce or eliminate by-catch of juvenile fish, and to ensure that these measures are implemented so as to optimize their effectiveness;

81. *Welcomes* the support of the Committee on Fisheries at its twenty-eighth session for the development of international guidelines on by-catch management and the reduction of discards,[156] and the convening by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations of an expert consultation to be followed by a technical consultation to develop such international guidelines;

82. *Encourages* States and entities referred to in the Convention and in article 1, paragraph 2 (*b*), of the Agreement to give due consideration to participation, as appropriate, in subregional and regional instruments and organizations with mandates to conserve non-target species taken incidentally in fishing operations;

83. *Encourages* States to strengthen, if necessary, the capacity of those subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements in which they participate to ensure the adequate conservation of non-target species taken incidentally in fishing operations, taking into consideration best practices for non-target species management, and to expedite their ongoing efforts in this regard;

84. *Requests* States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to urgently implement, as appropriate, the measures recommended in the 2004 Guidelines to Reduce Sea Turtle Mortality in Fishing Operations[170] and the International Plan of Action for Reducing Incidental Catch of Seabirds in Longline Fisheries of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations[158] in order to prevent the decline of sea turtles and seabird populations by minimizing by-catch and increasing post-release survival in their fisheries, including through research and development of gear and bait alternatives, promoting the use of available by-catch mitigation technology, and establishing and strengthening data-collection programmes to obtain standardized information to develop reliable estimates of the by-catch of these species;

85. *Welcomes* the decision of the Committee on Fisheries at its twenty-eighth session that the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations should publish the best practices technical guidelines for the implementation of the International Plan of Action for Reducing Incidental Catch of Seabirds in Longline Fisheries;[156]

86. *Notes* measures for the protection of seabirds, including those adopted at the Third Session of the Meeting of Parties to the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels, held in Bergen, Norway, from 27 April to 1 May 2009, in relation to albatrosses and petrels;

IX

Subregional and regional cooperation

87. *Urges* coastal States and States fishing on the high seas, in accordance with the Convention, the Agreement and other relevant instruments, to pursue cooperation in relation to straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks, either directly or through appropriate subregional or regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements, to ensure the effective conservation and management of such stocks;

88. *Urges* States fishing for straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks on the high seas, and relevant coastal States, where a subregional or regional fisheries management organization or arrangement has the competence to establish conservation and management measures for such stocks, to give effect to their duty to cooperate by becoming members of such an organization or participants in such an arrangement, or by agreeing to apply the conservation and

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[170] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, *Report of the Technical Consultation on Sea Turtles Conservation and Fisheries, Bangkok, 29 November–2 December 2004*, FAO Fisheries Report No. 765 (FIRM/R765 (En)), appendix E.

management measures established by such an organization or arrangement, or to otherwise ensure that no vessel flying their flag is authorized to access the fisheries resources to which regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements or conservation and management measures established by such organizations or arrangements apply;

89. *Invites*, in this regard, subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to ensure that all States having a real interest in the fisheries concerned may become members of such organizations or participants in such arrangements, in accordance with the Convention, the Agreement and the Code;

90. *Encourages* relevant coastal States and States fishing on the high seas for a straddling fish stock or a highly migratory fish stock, where there is no subregional or regional fisheries management organization or arrangement to establish conservation and management measures for such stocks, to cooperate to establish such an organization or enter into another appropriate arrangement to ensure the conservation and management of such stocks, and to participate in the work of the organization or arrangement;

91. *Urges* all signatory States and other States whose vessels fish within the area of the Convention on the Conservation and Management of Fishery Resources in the South-East Atlantic Ocean[171] for fishery resources covered by that Convention to become parties to that Convention as a matter of priority and, in the interim, to ensure that vessels flying their flags fully comply with the measures adopted;

92. *Encourages* signatory States and States having a real interest to become parties to the South Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement, and urges those States to agree on and implement interim measures, including measures in accordance with paragraphs 80 and 83 to 87 of resolution 61/105 and paragraphs 117, 119, 120, 122 and 123 of the present resolution, to ensure the conservation and management of the fisheries resources and their marine ecosystems and habitats in the area to which that Agreement applies until such time as that Agreement enters into force;

93. *Takes note* of recent efforts at the regional level to promote responsible fishing practices, including combating illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing;

94. *Welcomes with satisfaction* the adoption of the Convention on the Conservation and Management of High Seas Fishery Resources in the South Pacific Ocean in Auckland, New Zealand, on 14 November 2009, encourages the States and the regional economic integration organization and the entities referred to in article 1, paragraph 2 (*b*), of that Convention that participated in its negotiation, to sign it when it is opened for signature on 1 February 2010, and to implement fully the voluntary interim measures that have been adopted to give effect to paragraphs 80 and 83 to 87 of resolution 61/105 and to voluntarily restrain fishing effort and catches to avoid overexploitation of certain pelagic fisheries resources in the area to which that Convention will apply until it has entered into force and conservation and management measures have been adopted;

95. *Notes with satisfaction* the progress of negotiations to establish a subregional and regional fisheries management organization in the North Pacific, urges States having a real interest to participate in and expedite such negotiations, and to apply provisions of the Convention and the Agreement to their work, and encourages those participants to implement fully interim measures adopted in accordance with paragraphs 80 and 83 to 87 of resolution 61/105 and paragraphs 117, 119, 120, 122 and 123 of the present resolution;

96. *Takes note* of the ongoing efforts of the members of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission to strengthen the functioning of the Commission so that it can more effectively discharge its mandate, and invites the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to continue to provide members of the Commission with the necessary assistance to this end;

97. *Urges* further efforts by regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, as a matter of priority, in accordance with international law, to strengthen and modernize their mandates and the measures adopted by such organizations or arrangements, and to implement modern approaches to fisheries management, as reflected in the Agreement and other relevant international instruments, relying on the best scientific information available and application of the precautionary approach and incorporating an ecosystem approach to fisheries management and biodiversity considerations, where these aspects are lacking, to ensure that they effectively contribute to long-term conservation and management and sustainable use of marine living resources;

98. *Calls upon* regional fisheries management organizations with the competence to conserve and manage highly migratory fish stocks that have not yet adopted effective conservation and management measures in line with the best scientific information available to conserve and manage stocks falling under their mandate to do so urgently;

99. *Urges* States to strengthen and enhance cooperation among existing and developing regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements in which they participate, including increased communication and further coordination of measures, such as through the holding of joint consultations, and to strengthen integration, coordination and cooperation by such regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements with other relevant fisheries organizations, regional seas arrangements and other relevant international organizations;

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[171] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2221, No. 39489.

100. *Welcomes* the second joint meeting of the five regional fisheries management organizations with competence to manage highly migratory species, and urges those regional fisheries management organizations to take immediate measures towards implementing the Course of Actions adopted at that meeting;

101. *Urges* regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to improve transparency and to ensure that their decision-making processes are fair and transparent, rely on the best scientific information available, incorporate the precautionary approach and ecosystem approaches, address participatory rights, including through, inter alia, the development of transparent criteria for allocating fishing opportunities which reflects, where appropriate, the relevant provisions of the Agreement, taking due account, inter alia, of the status of the relevant stocks and the respective interests in the fishery;

102. *Welcomes* the fact that a number of regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements have completed performance reviews, and encourages the implementation, as appropriate, of the recommendations of their respective reviews as a matter of priority;

103. *Urges* States, through their participation in regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements that have not done so, to undertake, on an urgent basis, performance reviews of those regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, initiated either by the organization or arrangement itself or with external partners, including in cooperation with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, using transparent criteria based on the provisions of the Agreement and other relevant instruments, and taking into account the best practices of regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements and, as appropriate, any set of criteria developed by States or other regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements, and encourages that such performance reviews include some element of independent evaluation and propose means for improving the functioning of the regional fisheries management organization or arrangement, as appropriate;

104. *Encourages* regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to make the results of those performance reviews publicly available and to discuss the results jointly;

105. *Urges* States to cooperate, taking into account those performance reviews, to develop best practice guidelines for regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements and to apply, to the extent possible, those guidelines to organizations and arrangements in which they participate;

106. *Encourages* the development of regional guidelines for States to use in establishing sanctions for non-compliance by vessels flying their flag and by their nationals, to be applied in accordance with national law, that are adequate in severity for effectively securing compliance, deterring further violations and depriving offenders of the benefits deriving from their illegal activities, as well as in evaluating their systems of sanctions to ensure that they are effective in securing compliance and deterring violations;

X

Responsible fisheries in the marine ecosystem

107. *Encourages* States to apply by 2010 the ecosystem approach, in accordance with paragraph 30 (*d*) of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;

108. *Also encourages* States, individually or through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements and other relevant international organizations, to work to ensure that fisheries and other ecosystem data collection is performed in a coordinated and integrated manner, facilitating incorporation into global observation initiatives, where appropriate;

109. *Calls upon* States and regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements, working in cooperation with other relevant organizations, including the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission and the World Meteorological Organization, to adopt, as appropriate, measures to protect ocean data buoy systems moored in areas beyond national jurisdiction from actions that impair their operation;

110. *Encourages* States to increase scientific research in accordance with international law on the marine ecosystem;

111. *Calls upon* States, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and other specialized agencies, subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, where appropriate, and other appropriate intergovernmental bodies, to cooperate in achieving sustainable aquaculture, including through information exchange, developing equivalent standards on such issues as aquatic animal health and human health and safety concerns, assessing the potential positive and negative impacts of aquaculture, including socio-economics, on the marine and coastal environment, including biodiversity, and adopting relevant methods and techniques to minimize and mitigate adverse effects, and in this regard encourages the implementation of the 2007 Strategy and Outline Plan for Improving Information on Status and Trends of Aquaculture of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations,[172] as a framework for the improvement and understanding of aquaculture status and trends;

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[172] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, *Decisions and Recommendations of the Third Session of the Sub-Committee on Aquaculture, Twenty-seventh Session of the Committee on Fisheries, Rome, 5–9 March 2007* (COFI/2007/5), appendix.

112. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for the report on the actions taken by States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to give effect to paragraphs 83 to 90 of resolution 61/105;[173]

113. *Calls upon* States to take action immediately, individually and through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, and consistent with the precautionary approach and ecosystem approaches, to implement the 2008 International Guidelines for the Management of Deep-sea Fisheries in the High Seas of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations ("the Guidelines")[174] in order to sustainably manage fish stocks and protect vulnerable marine ecosystems, including seamounts, hydrothermal vents and cold water corals, from destructive fishing practices, recognizing the immense importance and value of deep sea ecosystems and the biodiversity they contain;

114. *Reaffirms* the importance of paragraphs 80 to 91 of resolution 61/105 addressing the impacts of bottom fishing on vulnerable marine ecosystems and the long-term sustainability of deep sea fish stocks and the actions called for in that resolution, and emphasizes the need for full implementation by all States and relevant regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements of their commitments under those paragraphs on an urgent basis;

115. *Recalls* that nothing in the paragraphs of resolution 61/105 and the present resolution addressing the impacts of bottom fishing on vulnerable marine ecosystems prejudices the sovereign rights of coastal States over their continental shelf or the exercise of the jurisdiction of coastal States with respect to their continental shelf under international law as reflected in the Convention, in particular article 77;

116. *Welcomes* the important progress made by States, regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements and those States participating in negotiations to establish a regional fisheries management organization or arrangement competent to regulate bottom fisheries to implement paragraphs 80 and 83 to 87 of resolution 61/105 and address the impacts of bottom fishing on vulnerable marine ecosystems;

117. *Also welcomes* the substantial work of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations related to the management of deep sea fisheries in the high seas and the protection of vulnerable marine ecosystems, in particular the development and adoption of the Guidelines, and urges States and regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements to ensure that their actions in sustainably managing deep sea fisheries and implementing paragraphs 80 and 83 to 87 of resolution 61/105 and paragraphs 119, 120 and 122 to 124 of the present resolution are consistent with the Guidelines;

118. *Notes with concern* that, despite the progress made, the urgent actions called for in paragraphs 80 and 83 to 87 of resolution 61/105 have not been sufficiently implemented in all cases;

119. *Considers* that, on the basis of the review carried out in accordance with paragraph 91 of resolution 61/105, further actions in accordance with the precautionary approach, ecosystem approaches and international law are needed to strengthen the implementation of paragraphs 80 and 83 to 87 of resolution 61/105, and in this regard calls upon regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements with the competence to regulate bottom fisheries, States participating in negotiations to establish such organizations or arrangements, and flag States to take the following urgent actions in areas beyond national jurisdiction:

(*a*) Conduct the assessments called for in paragraph 83 (*a*) of resolution 61/105, consistent with the Guidelines, and ensure that vessels do not engage in bottom fishing until such assessments have been carried out;

(*b*) Conduct further marine scientific research and use the best scientific and technical information available to identify where vulnerable marine ecosystems are known to occur or are likely to occur and adopt conservation and management measures to prevent significant adverse impacts on such ecosystems consistent with the Guidelines, or close such areas to bottom fishing until conservation and management measures have been established, as called for in paragraph 83 (*c*) of resolution 61/105;

(*c*) Establish and implement appropriate protocols for the implementation of paragraph 83 (*d*) of resolution 61/105, including definitions of what constitutes evidence of an encounter with a vulnerable marine ecosystem, in particular threshold levels and indicator species, based on the best available scientific information and consistent with the Guidelines, and taking into account any other conservation and management measures to prevent significant adverse impacts on vulnerable marine ecosystems, including those based on the results of assessments carried out pursuant to paragraph 83 (*a*) of resolution 61/105 and paragraph 119 (*a*) of the present resolution;

(*d*) Adopt conservation and management measures, including monitoring, control and surveillance measures, on the basis of stock assessments and the best available scientific information, to ensure the long-term sustainability of deep sea fish stocks and non-target species, and the rebuilding of depleted stocks, consistent with the Guidelines; and, where scientific information is uncertain, unreliable, or inadequate, ensure that conservation and management measures are established consistent with the precautionary approach, including measures to ensure that fishing effort, fishing capacity and catch limits, as appropriate, are at levels commensurate with the long-term sustainability of such stocks;

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[173] A/64/305.

[174] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, *Report of the Technical Consultation on International Guidelines for the Management of Deep-sea Fisheries in the High Seas, Rome, 4–8 February and 25–29 August 2008*, FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Report No. 881 (FIEP/R881 (Tri)), appendix F.

120. *Calls upon* flag States, members of regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements with the competence to regulate bottom fisheries and States participating in negotiations to establish such organizations or arrangements to adopt and implement measures in accordance with paragraphs 83, 85 and 86 of resolution 61/105, paragraph 119 of the present resolution, and international law, and consistent with the Guidelines, and not to authorize bottom fishing activities until such measures have been adopted and implemented;

121. *Recognizes* the special circumstances and requirements of developing States and the specific challenges they may face in giving full effect to certain technical aspects of the Guidelines, and that implementation by such States of paragraphs 83 to 87 of resolution 61/105, paragraph 119 of the present resolution and the Guidelines should proceed in a manner that gives full consideration to section 6 of the Guidelines on special requirements of developing countries;

122. *Calls upon* States and regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements to enhance efforts to cooperate to collect and exchange scientific and technical data and information related to the implementation of the measures called for in the relevant paragraphs of resolution 61/105 and the present resolution to manage deep sea fisheries in areas beyond national jurisdiction and to protect vulnerable marine ecosystems from significant adverse impacts of bottom fishing by, inter alia:

(*a*) Exchanging best practices and developing, where appropriate, regional standards for use by States engaged in bottom fisheries in areas beyond national jurisdiction and regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements with a view to examining current scientific and technical protocols and promoting consistent implementation of best practices across fisheries and regions, including assistance to developing States in accomplishing these objectives;

(*b*) Making publicly available, consistent with domestic law, assessments of whether individual bottom fishing activities would have significant adverse impacts on vulnerable marine ecosystems and the measures adopted in accordance with paragraphs 83, 85 and 86, as appropriate, of resolution 61/105, and promoting the inclusion of this information on the websites of regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements;

(*c*) Submission by flag States to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations of a list of those vessels flying their flag authorized to conduct bottom fisheries in areas beyond national jurisdiction, and the measures they have adopted to give effect to the relevant paragraphs of resolution 61/105 and the present resolution;

(*d*) Sharing information on vessels that are engaged in bottom fishing operations in areas beyond national jurisdiction where the flag State responsible for such vessels cannot be determined;

123. *Encourages* States and regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements to develop or strengthen data collection standards, procedures and protocols and research programmes for identification of vulnerable marine ecosystems, assessment of impacts on such ecosystems, and assessment of fishing activities on target and non-target species, consistent with the Guidelines and in accordance with the Convention, including Part XIII thereof;

124. *Calls upon* relevant States to cooperate and make efforts to establish, as appropriate, regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements competent to regulate bottom fisheries in areas beyond national jurisdiction where there are no such organizations or arrangements;

125. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations for its important work to provide expert technical advice on the management of deep sea fisheries in areas beyond national jurisdiction and the protection of vulnerable marine ecosystems from the impacts of fishing, and encourages the Organization in its further work related to the implementation of the Guidelines;

126. *Welcomes* the programme proposal for deep sea fisheries in the high seas on ensuring sustainable use of marine resources and protection of vulnerable marine ecosystems of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, including the development of support tools and a database on vulnerable marine ecosystems, and invites States to support the programme so that its elements may be finalized as a matter of priority;

127. *Invites* the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, working with other relevant international governmental organizations, to consider means to support flag States and regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements in their implementation of paragraphs 83 to 87 of resolution 61/105, paragraphs 119 to 122 of the present resolution and the Guidelines;

128. *Requests* the Secretary-General to convene, within existing resources, within the time made available for the informal consultations on the sustainable fisheries resolution and without prejudice to future arrangements, a two-day workshop in 2011 in order to discuss implementation of paragraphs 80 and 83 to 87 of resolution 61/105 and paragraphs 117 and 119 to 127 of the present resolution, and invite States, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and other relevant specialized agencies, funds and programmes, subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, other fisheries bodies, other relevant intergovernmental bodies, and relevant non-governmental organizations and stakeholders, in accordance with United Nations practice, to attend the workshop;

129. *Decides* to conduct a further review in 2011 of the actions taken by States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements in response to paragraphs 80 and 83 to 87 of resolution 61/105 and paragraphs 117 and 119 to 127 of the present resolution, with a view to ensuring effective implementation of the measures and to make further recommendations, where necessary, and taking into account the discussions during the workshop referred to in paragraph 128 above;

130. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in cooperation with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, to include in his report on fisheries to the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session a section on the actions taken by States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements in response to paragraphs 80 and 83 to 87 of resolution 61/105 and paragraphs 117 and 119 to 127 of the present resolution, and invites States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to consider making such information publicly available;

131. *Encourages* accelerated progress to establish criteria on the objectives and management of marine protected areas for fisheries purposes, and in this regard welcomes the proposed work of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to develop technical guidelines in accordance with the Convention and the Code on the design, implementation and testing of marine protected areas for such purposes, and urges coordination and cooperation among all relevant international organizations and bodies;

132. *Urges* all States to implement the 1995 Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities[175] and to accelerate activity to safeguard the marine ecosystem, including fish stocks, against pollution and physical degradation;

133. *Reaffirms* the importance it attaches to paragraphs 77 to 81 of resolution 60/31 concerning the issue of lost, abandoned or discarded fishing gear and related marine debris and the adverse impacts such debris and derelict fishing gear have on, inter alia, fish stocks, habitats and other marine species, and urges accelerated progress by States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements in implementing those paragraphs of the resolution;

XI

Capacity-building

134. *Reiterates* the crucial importance of cooperation by States directly or, as appropriate, through the relevant subregional and regional organizations, and by other international organizations, including the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations through its FishCode programme, including through financial and/or technical assistance, in accordance with the Agreement, the Compliance Agreement, the Code and its associated international plans of action,[158] to increase the capacity of developing States to achieve the goals and implement the actions called for in the present resolution;

135. *Welcomes* the work of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in developing guidance on the strategies and measures required for the creation of an enabling environment for small-scale fisheries, including the development of a code of conduct and guidelines for enhancing the contribution of small-scale fisheries to poverty alleviation and food security that include adequate provisions with regard to financial measures and capacity-building, including transfer of technology, and encourages studies for creating possible alternative livelihoods for coastal communities;

136. *Encourages* increased capacity-building and technical assistance by States, international financial institutions and relevant intergovernmental organizations and bodies for fishers, in particular small-scale fishers, in developing countries, and in particular small island developing States, consistent with environmental sustainability;

137. *Encourages* the international community to enhance the opportunities for sustainable development in developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, small island developing States and coastal African States, by encouraging greater participation of those States in authorized fisheries activities being undertaken within areas under their national jurisdiction, in accordance with the Convention, by distant-water fishing nations in order to achieve better economic returns for developing countries from their fisheries resources within areas under their national jurisdiction and an enhanced role in regional fisheries management, as well as by enhancing the ability of developing countries to develop their own fisheries, as well as to participate in high seas fisheries, including access to such fisheries, in conformity with international law, in particular the Convention and the Agreement, and taking into account article 5 of the Code;

138. *Requests* distant-water fishing nations, when negotiating access agreements and arrangements with developing coastal States, to do so on an equitable and sustainable basis, including by giving greater attention to fish processing and fish-processing facilities within the national jurisdiction of the developing coastal State to assist the realization of the benefits from the development of fisheries resources, and also the transfer of technology and assistance for monitoring, control and surveillance and compliance and enforcement within areas under the national jurisdiction of the developing coastal State providing fisheries access, taking into account the forms of cooperation set out in article 25 of the Agreement and article 5 of the Code;

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[175] See A/51/116, annex II.

139. *Encourages* States, individually and through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to provide greater assistance and to promote coherence in such assistance for developing States in designing, establishing and implementing relevant agreements, instruments and tools for the conservation and sustainable management of fish stocks, including in designing and strengthening their domestic regulatory fisheries policies and those of regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements in their regions, and the enhancement of research and scientific capabilities through existing funds, such as the Assistance Fund under Part VII of the Agreement, bilateral assistance, regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements assistance funds, the FishCode programme, the World Bank's global programme on fisheries and the Global Environment Facility;

140. *Encourages* States to provide technical and financial support to developing countries to address their special requirements and challenges in implementing the Guidelines;

141. *Calls upon* States to promote, through continuing dialogue and the assistance and cooperation provided in accordance with articles 24 to 26 of the Agreement, further ratification of or accession to the Agreement by seeking to address, inter alia, the issue of lack of capacity and resources that might stand in the way of developing States becoming parties;

142. *Notes with appreciation* the compilation prepared by the Secretariat of the needs of developing States for capacity-building and assistance in the conservation and management of straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks and the sources of available assistance for developing States to address such needs;[176]

143. *Encourages* States, regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements and other relevant bodies to assist developing States in the implementation of the actions called for in paragraphs 80 and 83 to 87 of resolution 61/105 and paragraphs 113 and 119 to 124 of the present resolution;

XII

Cooperation within the United Nations system

144. *Requests* the relevant parts of the United Nations system, international financial institutions and donor agencies to support increased enforcement and compliance capabilities for regional fisheries management organizations and their member States;

145. *Invites* the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to continue its cooperative arrangements with United Nations agencies on the implementation of the international plans of action and to report to the Secretary-General, for inclusion in his annual report on sustainable fisheries, on priorities for cooperation and coordination in this work;

XIII

Sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly

146. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of all States, relevant intergovernmental organizations, the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and relevant non-governmental organizations, and to invite them to provide the Secretary-General with information relevant to the implementation of the present resolution;

147. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-seventh session a report on "Sustainable fisheries, including through the 1995 Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks, and related instruments", taking into account information provided by States, relevant specialized agencies, in particular the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, and other appropriate organs, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system, subregional and regional organizations and arrangements for the conservation and management of straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks, as well as other relevant intergovernmental bodies and non-governmental organizations, and consisting, inter alia, of elements provided in relevant paragraphs in the present resolution;

148. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session, under the item entitled "Oceans and the law of the sea", the sub-item entitled "Sustainable fisheries, including through the 1995 Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks, and related instruments".

RESOLUTION 64/74

Adopted at the 60th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2009, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/64/L.19 and Add.1, sponsored by: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kuwait, Luxembourg, Mexico, Monaco, Nicaragua, Panama,

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[176] Available from www.un.org/Depts/los/convention_agreements/fishstocksmeetings/compilation2009updated.pdf.

Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Slovenia, Spain, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Ukraine, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

64/74. Humanitarian assistance, emergency relief and rehabilitation for El Salvador as a result of the devastating effects of Hurricane Ida

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 53/1 B of 5 October 1998, 53/1 C of 2 November 1998, 54/96 E of 15 December 1999, 58/117 of 17 December 2003, 59/212 of 20 December 2004, 59/231 and 59/233 of 22 December 2004 and 60/220 of 22 December 2005,

Reiterating the need for the United Nations system to respond to requests for assistance by Member States and for humanitarian assistance to be provided in accordance with the principles of humanity, neutrality, impartiality and independence,

Deeply regretting the loss of human life and the scores of victims caused by Hurricane Ida in El Salvador on 7 and 8 November 2009,

Conscious of the huge material losses sustained to crops, homes, basic infrastructure and tourist and other areas,

Acknowledging the efforts of the Government of El Salvador to protect the lives of its nationals and rapidly to assist the affected population,

Conscious that the Central American countries are vulnerable to cyclical weather patterns and prone to natural hazards owing to their geographical location and features, which impose additional challenges on their ability to achieve the Millennium Development Goals,

Noting the enormous effort, as well as the fullest coordinated support and solidarity of the international community, that will be required to rebuild the affected areas and to alleviate the grave situation wreaked by these natural hazards,

1. *Expresses its solidarity and support* to the Government and the people of El Salvador;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the members of the international community that have offered their support to the rescue and emergency assistance effort for the affected population;

3. *Appeals* to all Member States and all organs and bodies of the United Nations system, as well as international financial institutions and development agencies, to provide speedy support to the relief, rehabilitation and assistance effort for El Salvador;

4. *Calls upon* the international community to provide assistance in response to the United Nations flash appeal for El Salvador;

5. *Acknowledges* the efforts and progress made by El Salvador in strengthening its disaster-preparedness capacity, emphasizes the importance of investing in disaster risk reduction, and encourages the international community to continue to cooperate with the Government of El Salvador towards this end;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General and all organs and bodies of the United Nations system, as well as international financial institutions and development agencies, to assist El Salvador, whenever possible, through continued effective humanitarian, technical and financial assistance that contributes to overcoming the emergency and achieving the rehabilitation and recovery of the economy and the affected population, in conformity with the priorities identified at the national level;

7. *Requests* the relevant organs and organizations of the United Nations system and other multilateral organizations to increase their support and assistance for strengthening the disaster-preparedness capacity of El Salvador;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution and on the progress made in the relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction effort for El Salvador under the sub-item entitled "Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations".

RESOLUTION 64/75

Adopted at the 60th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2009, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/64/L.31 and Add.1, sponsored by: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Grenada, Guatemala, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Mexico, Monaco, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Senegal, Serbia, Slovenia, Spain, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Turkey, Ukraine, Uruguay

64/75. Participation of volunteers, "White Helmets", in the activities of the United Nations in the field of humanitarian relief, rehabilitation and technical cooperation for development

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolutions 50/19 of 28 November 1995, 52/171 of 16 December 1997, 54/98 of 8 December 1999, 56/102 of 14 December 2001, 58/118 of 17 December 2003 and 61/220 of 20 December 2006, *Reaffirming also* its resolutions 46/182 of 19 December 1991, 47/168 of 22 December 1992, 48/57 of 14 December 1993, 49/139 A and B of 20 December 1994, 50/57 of 12 December 1995 and 51/194 of 17 December 1996 and Economic and Social Council resolutions 1995/56 of 28 July 1995 and 1996/33 of 25 July 1996,

Emphasizing the need for coordination between relief and development activities in the context of humanitarian emergencies, taking into account the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[177]

Recognizing the importance of mobilizing the scientific and technical know-how of the international community as a way of mitigating the effects of disasters, bearing in mind the positive impact of technology transfer to developing countries in this field,

Recognizing also the responsibility of the United Nations system in the promotion of international cooperation to prevent and mitigate disasters, to provide assistance and to coordinate relief and prevention measures, highlighting the leading role of the Secretary-General in this regard,

Recognizing further that the international community, in addressing the growing magnitude and complexity of man-made and natural disasters and chronic situations characterized by hunger, malnutrition and poverty, must rely not only on the formulation of a well-coordinated global response within the framework of the United Nations but also on the promotion of a smooth transition from relief to rehabilitation, reconstruction and development,

Recognizing the effort made by the White Helmets model in helping to involve stricken populations or those at risk in the tasks of planning, training, mobilizing and providing an immediate response in disaster situations,

Recognizing also the need to integrate a gender perspective in the design and implementation of all phases of disaster management,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General, in particular section IV.C, on the strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations, prepared pursuant to its resolution 46/182 and submitted in response to resolutions 63/139 of 11 December 2008 and 61/220;[178]

2. *Recognizes* the effort being made by the White Helmets initiative to strengthen national and regional agreements aimed at facilitating coordination between the United Nations system and trained standby national volunteer corps, in accordance with accepted United Nations procedures, through the United Nations Volunteers and other agencies of the system;

3. *Notes* the emphasis placed on the development of mechanisms to facilitate the local management of humanitarian emergencies, through the organization and participatory involvement and empowerment of affected communities and the training of the members of local volunteer corps;

4. *Also notes* the importance of the international efforts being made by the White Helmets initiative to strengthen the comprehensive regional mechanisms for managing prevention and response activities in emergency and disaster situations, in particular its model for setting up regional networks of focal points, with a view to linkage with other international structures;

5. *Recognizes* that the White Helmets initiative can play an important role in the promotion, diffusion and implementation of the decisions contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[177] and invites Member States in a position to do so to consider means to ensure the integration of the White Helmets initiative into their programme activities and to make financial resources available to the Special Voluntary Fund of the United Nations Volunteers;

6. *Takes note* of the efforts made by the World Food Programme and the White Helmets to coordinate integration mechanisms that allow for joint action within the framework of food security, on the basis of their general agreements of 1998;

7. *Encourages* operational partners of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Volunteers and the World Health Organization, in providing psychosocial support to the disaster-affected population in emergency and disaster situations, to draw, as appropriate, on the voluntary expertise of the White Helmets, which has been successfully tested;

8. *Encourages* the White Helmets to continue enhancing coordination with the international humanitarian system and to explore mechanisms for sharing best practices on disaster response and preparedness with other regional organizations in disaster-prone areas, in an effort to improve the coordination of humanitarian assistance provided by the United Nations in emergency situations;

9. *Invites* the Secretary-General, on the basis of the experience acquired, to continue considering the use of the White Helmets initiative as a resource suitable for preventing and mitigating the effects of humanitarian disaster situations;

10. *Also invites* the Secretary-General, on the basis of the extensive international work experience acquired by the White Helmets, as recognized by the General Assembly since the adoption of its resolution 49/139 B, the first resolution on the White Helmets initiative, and in view of the success of coordinated actions carried out with, inter alia, the United Nations Children's Fund, the World Food Programme, the Food

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[177] See resolution 55/2.

[178] A/64/84-E/2009/87.

and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat, the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Volunteers, to suggest measures to enhance the integration of the White Helmets initiative into the work of the United Nations system and to report thereon to the Assembly at its sixty-seventh session in a separate section of the annual report on the strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations.

RESOLUTION 64/76

Adopted at the 60th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2009, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/64/L.32 and Add.1, sponsored by: Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Belize, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Gabon, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malta, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Mozambique, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Zambia

64/76. Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 46/182 of 19 December 1991 and the guiding principles contained in the annex thereto, other relevant General Assembly and Economic and Social Council resolutions and agreed conclusions of the Council,

Noting the reports of the Secretary-General on the strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations[179] and on the Central Emergency Response Fund,[180]

Reaffirming the principles of neutrality, humanity, impartiality and independence for the provision of humanitarian assistance,

Deeply concerned about the humanitarian impact of such global challenges as the global financial and economic crisis and the ongoing food crisis, including their effect on the increasing vulnerability of populations and their negative impact on the effective delivery of humanitarian assistance,

Emphasizing the need to mobilize adequate, predictable, timely and flexible resources for humanitarian assistance based on and in proportion to assessed needs, with a view to ensuring fuller coverage of the needs in all sectors and across humanitarian emergencies, and recognizing, in this regard, the achievements of the Central Emergency Response Fund,

Reiterating the need for Member States, relevant United Nations organizations and other relevant actors to mainstream a gender perspective into humanitarian assistance, including by addressing the specific needs of women, girls, boys and men in a comprehensive and consistent manner,

Expressing its deep concern at the increasing challenges faced by Member States and the United Nations humanitarian response capacity as a result of the consequences of natural disasters, including the impact of climate change, and reaffirming the importance of implementing the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005–2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters,[181] inter alia, by providing adequate resources for disaster risk reduction, including disaster preparedness,

Recognizing that building national and local preparedness and response capacity is critical to a more predictable and effective response,

Emphasizing that enhancing international cooperation on emergency humanitarian assistance is essential, and reaffirming its resolution 63/141 of 11 December 2008 on international cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters,

Condemning the increasing number of deliberate violent attacks against humanitarian personnel and facilities and the negative implications for the provision of humanitarian assistance to populations in need,

Recognizing the high numbers of persons affected by humanitarian emergencies, including internally displaced persons, and welcoming, in this regard, the adoption on 22 October 2009 of the African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa,[182] which marks a significant step towards strengthening the national and regional normative framework for the protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons in Africa,

Recognizing also that 2009 marks the sixtieth anniversary of the Geneva Conventions of 1949,[183] which include a vital legal framework for the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, including the provision of humanitarian assistance,

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[179] Ibid.

[180] A/64/327.

[181] A/CONF.206/6 and Corr.1, chap. I, resolution 2.

[182] Available from www.africa-union.org.

[183] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

Noting with grave concern that violence, including gender-based violence, particularly sexual violence, and violence against children, continues to be deliberately directed against civilian populations in many emergency situations,

Noting with appreciation the efforts made by the United Nations to improve humanitarian response, including by strengthening humanitarian response capacities, improving humanitarian coordination, enhancing predictable and adequate funding and strengthening the accountability of all stakeholders, and recognizing the importance of strengthening emergency administrative procedures and funding to allow for an effective response to emergencies,

Recognizing that in strengthening the coordination of humanitarian assistance in the field, United Nations organizations should continue to work in close coordination with national Governments,

1. *Welcomes* the outcome of the twelfth humanitarian affairs segment of the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 2009;[184]

2. *Requests* the Emergency Relief Coordinator to continue his efforts to strengthen the coordination of humanitarian assistance, and calls upon relevant United Nations organizations and other relevant intergovernmental organizations, as well as other humanitarian and development actors, to continue to work with the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat to enhance the coordination, effectiveness and efficiency of humanitarian assistance;

3. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system and, as appropriate, other relevant humanitarian actors to continue efforts to improve the humanitarian response to natural and man-made disasters and complex emergencies by further strengthening humanitarian response capacities at all levels, by continuing to strengthen the coordination of humanitarian assistance at the field level, including with national authorities of the affected State, as appropriate, and by further enhancing transparency, performance and accountability;

4. *Recognizes* the benefits of engagement and coordination with relevant humanitarian actors to the effectiveness of humanitarian response, and encourages the United Nations to continue to pursue efforts to strengthen partnerships at the global level with the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, relevant humanitarian non-governmental organizations and other participants in the Inter-Agency Standing Committee;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to strengthen the support provided to United Nations resident/humanitarian coordinators and to United Nations country teams, including by providing necessary training, identifying resources and improving the identification of and the selection process for United Nations resident/humanitarian coordinators;

6. *Reaffirms* the importance of implementing the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005–2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters,[181] takes note with appreciation of the "2009 Global Assessment Report on Disaster Risk Reduction"[185] and the outcome of the second session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, held in Geneva from 16 to 19 June 2009, and looks forward to the midterm review of the Hyogo Framework for Action in 2010;

7. *Calls upon* Member States and the international community to increase resources for disaster risk reduction measures, including in the areas of preparedness for effective response and contingency planning;

8. *Urges* Member States, the United Nations and other relevant organizations to take further steps to provide a coordinated emergency response to the food and nutrition needs of affected populations, while aiming to ensure that such steps are supportive of national strategies and programmes aimed at improving food security;

9. *Encourages* the international community, including relevant United Nations organizations and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, to support efforts of Member States aimed at strengthening their capacity to prepare for and respond to disasters and to support efforts, as appropriate, to strengthen systems for identifying and monitoring disaster risk, including vulnerability and natural hazards;

10. *Recognizes* the importance of the work of international and, as appropriate, regional organizations in supporting State efforts to improve international cooperation in disaster response, and encourages Member States and, where applicable, regional organizations to strengthen operational and legal frameworks for international disaster relief, taking into account, as appropriate, the Guidelines for the Domestic Facilitation and Regulation of International Disaster Relief and Initial Recovery Assistance, adopted at the Thirtieth International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent, held in Geneva from 26 to 30 November 2007;

11. *Encourages* States to create an enabling environment for the capacity-building of local authorities and of national and local non-governmental and community-based organizations in order to ensure better preparedness in providing timely, effective and predictable humanitarian assistance, and

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[184] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/64/3/Rev.1), chap. VI.

[185] Available from www.unisdr.org.

encourages the United Nations and humanitarian organizations to provide support to such efforts, including, as appropriate, through the transfer of technology and expertise to developing countries and through support to programmes aimed at enhancing the coordination capacities of affected States;

12. *Encourages* efforts to enhance cooperation and coordination between United Nations humanitarian entities, other relevant humanitarian organizations and donor countries and the affected State, with a view to planning and delivering emergency humanitarian assistance in ways that are supportive of early recovery as well as of sustainable rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with the affected countries and relevant humanitarian and development actors, to carry out an assessment of steps taken by the United Nations and relevant partners to support efforts to strengthen local, national and regional humanitarian response capacity and to include his findings as well as recommendations for enhancing United Nations support in this regard in his report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session;

14. *Encourages* efforts to provide education in emergencies, including in order to contribute to a smooth transition from relief to development;

15. *Calls upon* relevant United Nations organizations to support the improvement of the consolidated appeals process, inter alia by engaging in the preparation of needs analyses and common humanitarian action plans, including through a better analysis of gender-related allocations, in order to further the development of the process as an instrument for United Nations strategic planning and prioritization, and by involving other relevant humanitarian organizations in the process, while reiterating that consolidated appeals are prepared in consultation with affected States;

16. *Requests* Member States, relevant humanitarian organizations of the United Nations system and other relevant humanitarian actors to ensure that all aspects of humanitarian response, including disaster preparedness and needs assessment, take into account the specific needs of the affected population, recognizing that giving appropriate consideration to, inter alia, gender, age and disability is part of a comprehensive and effective humanitarian response;

17. *Calls upon* United Nations humanitarian organizations, in consultation with Member States, as appropriate, to strengthen the evidence base for humanitarian assistance by further developing common mechanisms to improve the quality, transparency and reliability of, and make further progress towards, common humanitarian needs assessments, to assess their performance in assistance and to ensure the most effective use of humanitarian resources by these organizations;

18. *Calls upon* donors to provide adequate, timely, predictable and flexible resources based on and in proportion to

continue to support diverse humanitarian funding channels, and encourages efforts to adhere to the Principles and Good Practice of Humanitarian Donorship;[186]

19. *Welcomes* the important achievements of the Central Emergency Response Fund in ensuring a more timely and predictable response to humanitarian emergencies, and stresses the importance of continuing to improve the functioning of the Fund in order to ensure that resources are used in the most efficient, effective and transparent manner possible;

20. *Calls upon* all Member States and invites the private sector and all concerned individuals and institutions to consider increasing their voluntary contributions to the Central Emergency Response Fund, and emphasizes that contributions should be additional to current commitments to humanitarian programming and should not be to the detriment of resources made available for international cooperation for development;

21. *Reiterates* that the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs should benefit from adequate and more predictable funding;

22. *Reaffirms* the obligation of all States and parties to an armed conflict to protect civilians in armed conflicts in accordance with international humanitarian law, and invites States to promote a culture of protection, taking into account the particular needs of women, children, older persons and persons with disabilities;

23. *Calls upon* States to adopt preventive measures and effective responses to acts of violence committed against civilian populations in armed conflicts and to ensure that those responsible are promptly brought to justice, in accordance with national law and their obligations under international law;

24. *Urges* all Member States to address gender-based violence in humanitarian emergencies and to ensure that their laws and institutions are adequate to prevent, promptly investigate and prosecute acts of gender-based violence, and calls upon States, the United Nations and all relevant humanitarian organizations to improve coordination, harmonize response and strengthen capacity, with a view to reducing such violence, and in support services to victims of such violence;

25. *Recognizes* the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement[187] as an important international framework for the protection of internally displaced persons, encourages Member States and humanitarian agencies to continue to work together, in collaboration with host communities, in endeavours to provide a more predictable response to the needs of internally displaced persons, and in this regard calls for continued and enhanced international support, upon request, for capacity-building efforts of States;

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[186] A/58/99-E/2003/94, annex II.

26. *Calls upon* all States and parties in complex humanitarian emergencies, in particular in armed conflict and in post-conflict situations, in countries in which humanitarian personnel are operating, in conformity with the relevant provisions of international law and national laws, to cooperate fully with the United Nations and other humanitarian agencies and organizations and to ensure the safe and unhindered access of humanitarian personnel, as well as delivery of supplies and equipment, in order to allow such personnel to efficiently perform their task of assisting affected civilian populations, including refugees and internally displaced persons;

27. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report on action taken by the Secretariat to develop and apply special emergency rules and procedures to ensure the quick disbursement of emergency funds, the expeditious procurement of emergency supplies and equipment and the rapid recruitment of staff in order to improve the overall response to humanitarian emergencies;

28. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session, through the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 2010, on progress made in strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations and to submit a report to the Assembly on the detailed use of the Central Emergency Response Fund.

RESOLUTION 64/77

Adopted at the 60th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2009, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/64/L.33 and Add.1, sponsored by: Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Belize, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Colombia, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Senegal, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

64/77. Safety and security of humanitarian personnel and protection of United Nations personnel

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 46/182 of 19 December 1991 on the strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian emergency assistance of the United Nations,

Recalling all relevant resolutions on safety and security of humanitarian personnel and protection of United Nations personnel, including its resolution 63/138 of 11 December 2008, as well as Security Council resolution 1502 (2003) of 26 August

Recalling also all Security Council resolutions and presidential statements and reports of the Secretary-General to the Council on the protection of civilians in armed conflict,

Recalling further all relevant provisions of international law, including international humanitarian law and human rights law, as well as all relevant treaties,[188]

Reaffirming the need to promote and ensure respect for the principles and rules of international law, including international humanitarian law,

Reaffirming also the principles of neutrality, humanity, impartiality and independence for the provision of humanitarian assistance,

Recalling that primary responsibility under international law for the security and protection of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel lies with the Government hosting a United Nations operation conducted under the Charter of the United Nations or its agreements with relevant organizations,

Expressing its appreciation to those Governments which respect the internationally agreed principles on the protection of humanitarian and United Nations personnel, while expressing concern over the lack of respect for these principles in some areas,

Urging all parties involved in armed conflicts, in compliance with international humanitarian law, in particular their obligations under the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949[189] and the obligations applicable to them under the Additional Protocols thereto of 8 June 1977,[190] to ensure the security and protection of all humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel,

Welcoming the fact that the number of States parties to the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel,[191] which entered into force on 15 January 1999, has continued to rise, the number now having reached eighty-eight, mindful of the need to promote the universality of the Convention, and recalling with appreciation the adoption of the

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[188] They include, notably, the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations of 13 February 1946, the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies of 21 November 1947, the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel of 9 December 1994, the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel of 8 December 2005 (not yet in force), the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War of 12 August 1949 and the Additional Protocols to the Geneva Conventions of 8 June 1977, and Amended Protocol II of 3 May 1996 to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects of 10 October 1980.

[189] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel,[192] which expands the scope of legal protection under the Convention,

Deeply concerned by the dangers and security risks faced by humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel at the field level, as they operate in increasingly complex contexts, as well as the continuous erosion, in many cases, of respect for the principles and rules of international law, in particular international humanitarian law,

Stressing the importance of fully respecting the obligations relating to the use of vehicles and premises of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel as defined by relevant international instruments, as well as the obligations relating to distinctive emblems recognized in the Geneva Conventions,

Commending the courage and commitment of those who take part in humanitarian operations, often at great personal risk, especially locally recruited staff,

Expressing profound regret at the deaths of and violent acts against international and national humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel involved in the provision of humanitarian assistance, and strongly deploring the rising toll of casualties among such personnel in complex humanitarian emergencies, in particular in armed conflicts and in post-conflict situations,

Expressing deep concern at the deep and long-lasting impacts of attacks and threats against humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel,

Strongly condemning acts of murder and other forms of violence, rape and sexual assault and all forms of violence committed in particular against women and children, and intimidation, armed robbery, abduction, hostage-taking, kidnapping, harassment and illegal arrest and detention to which those participating in humanitarian operations are increasingly exposed, as well as attacks on humanitarian convoys and acts of destruction and looting of property,

Expressing deep concern that the occurrence of attacks and threats against humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel is a factor that increasingly restricts the provision of assistance and protection to populations in need,

Recalling the report entitled "Towards a Culture of Security and Accountability" of the Independent Panel on Safety and Security of United Nations Personnel and Premises Worldwide [193] and its recommendations, including on accountability,

Affirming the need for States to ensure that perpetrators of attacks committed on their territory against humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel do not operate with impunity, and that the perpetrators of such acts are brought to justice, as provided for by national laws and obligations under international law,

Recalling the inclusion of attacks intentionally directed against personnel involved in a humanitarian assistance or peacekeeping mission in accordance with the Charter as a war crime in the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court,[194] and noting the role that the Court can play in appropriate cases in bringing to justice those responsible for serious violations of international humanitarian law,

Reaffirming the need to ensure adequate levels of safety and security for United Nations personnel and associated humanitarian personnel, including locally recruited staff, which constitutes an underlying duty of the Organization, and mindful of the need to promote and enhance security consciousness within the organizational culture of the United Nations and a culture of accountability at all levels, as well as to continue to promote awareness of and sensitivity to national and local cultures and laws,

Noting the importance of reinforcing the close collaboration between the United Nations and the host country on contingency planning, information exchange and risk assessment in the context of good mutual cooperation on issues relating to the security of United Nations and associated personnel,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General;[195]

2. *Urges* all States to make every effort to ensure the full and effective implementation of the relevant principles and rules of international law, including international humanitarian law, human rights law and refugee law related to the safety and security of humanitarian personnel and United Nations personnel;

3. *Strongly urges* all States to take the necessary measures to ensure the safety and security of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel and to respect and ensure respect for the inviolability of United Nations premises, which are essential to the continuation and successful implementation of United Nations operations;

4. *Calls upon* all Governments and parties in complex humanitarian emergencies, in particular in armed conflicts and in post-conflict situations, in countries in which humanitarian personnel are operating, in conformity with the relevant provisions of international law and national laws, to cooperate fully with the United Nations and other humanitarian agencies

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[192] Resolution 60/42, annex.

[193] Available from www.un.org/News/dh/infocus/terrorism/PanelOnSafetyReport.pdf.

[194] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2187, No. 38544.

[195] A/64/336.

and organizations and to ensure the safe and unhindered access of humanitarian personnel and delivery of supplies and equipment, in order to allow those personnel to perform efficiently their task of assisting the affected civilian population, including refugees and internally displaced persons;

5. *Calls upon* all States to consider becoming parties to and to respect fully their obligations under the relevant international instruments;

6. *Also calls upon* all States to consider becoming parties to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court;[194]

7. *Further calls upon* all States to consider becoming parties to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel[192] as soon as possible so as to ensure its rapid entry into force, and urges States parties to put in place appropriate national legislation, as necessary, to enable its effective implementation;

8. *Calls upon* all States, all parties involved in armed conflict and all humanitarian actors to respect the principles of neutrality, humanity, impartiality and independence for the provision of humanitarian assistance;

9. *Expresses deep concern* over the recent dramatic escalation of threats and deliberate targeting of, and the disturbing trend of politically or criminally motivated attacks against, the safety and security of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel;

10. *Strongly condemns* all threats and acts of violence against humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel, reaffirms the need to hold accountable those responsible for such acts, strongly urges all States to take stronger action to ensure that any such acts committed on their territory are investigated fully and to ensure that the perpetrators of such acts are brought to justice in accordance with national laws and obligations under international law, and urges States to end impunity for such acts;

11. *Calls upon* all States to comply fully with their obligations under international humanitarian law, including as provided by the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War of 12 August 1949,[196] in order to respect and protect all humanitarian personnel in territories subject to their jurisdiction;

12. *Also calls upon* all States to provide adequate and prompt information in the event of the arrest or detention of humanitarian personnel or United Nations and associated personnel, so as to afford them the necessary medical assistance and to allow independent medical teams to visit and examine the health of those detained, and urges them to take the necessary measures to ensure the speedy release of those who have been arrested or detained in violation of the relevant conventions referred to in the present resolution and applicable international humanitarian law;

13. *Calls upon* all other parties involved in armed conflict to refrain from abducting humanitarian personnel or United Nations and associated personnel or detaining them in violation of the relevant conventions referred to in the present resolution and applicable international humanitarian law, and speedily to release, without harm or requirement of concession, any abductee or detainee;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary measures to promote full respect for the human rights, privileges and immunities of United Nations and other personnel carrying out activities in fulfilment of the mandate of a United Nations operation, and also requests the Secretary-General to seek the inclusion, in negotiations of headquarters and other mission agreements concerning United Nations and associated personnel, of the applicable conditions contained in the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations,[197] the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies[198] and the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel;[191]

15. *Recommends* that the Secretary-General continue to seek the inclusion of, and that host countries include, key provisions of the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel, among others, those regarding the prevention of attacks against members of the operation, the establishment of such attacks as crimes punishable by law and the prosecution or extradition of offenders, in future as well as, if necessary, in existing status-of-forces, status-of-mission, host country and other related agreements negotiated between the United Nations and those countries, mindful of the importance of the timely conclusion of such agreements, and encourages further efforts in this regard;

16. *Reaffirms* the obligation of all humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel to respect and, where required, observe the national laws of the country in which they are operating, in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations;

17. *Stresses* the importance of ensuring that humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel remain sensitive to national and local customs and traditions in their countries of assignment and communicate clearly their purpose and objectives to local populations;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to take the necessary measures to ensure that United Nations and other

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[196] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

[197] Resolution 22 A (I).

[198] Resolution 179 (II).

personnel carrying out activities in fulfilment of the mandate of a United Nations operation are properly informed about and operate in conformity with the minimum operating security standards and relevant codes of conduct and are properly informed about the conditions under which they are called upon to operate and the standards that they are required to meet, including those contained in relevant national laws and international law, and that adequate training in security, human rights law and international humanitarian law is provided so as to enhance their security and effectiveness in accomplishing their functions, and reaffirms the necessity for all other humanitarian organizations to provide their personnel with similar support;

19. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue, in coordination with Member States, to take the necessary measures to ensure that all United Nations premises and assets, including staff residences, are compliant with the United Nations minimum operating security standards and other relevant United Nations security standards;

20. *Welcomes* the ongoing efforts of the Secretary-General, stresses the need to ensure that all United Nations staff members receive adequate security training, including training to enhance cultural awareness, prior to their deployment to the field, as well as the need to attach a high priority to stress management training and related counselling services for United Nations staff throughout the system, and reaffirms the necessity for all other humanitarian organizations to provide their personnel with similar support;

21. *Also welcomes* the ongoing efforts of the Secretary-General to further enhance the security management system of the United Nations, and in this regard invites the United Nations and, as appropriate, other humanitarian organizations, working closely with host States, to further strengthen the analysis of threats to their safety and security in order to manage security risks by facilitating informed decisions on the maintenance of an effective presence in the field, inter alia, to fulfil their humanitarian mandate;

22. *Requests* the Secretary-General, inter alia, through the Inter-Agency Security Management Network, to continue to promote increased cooperation and collaboration among United Nations departments, organizations, funds and programmes and affiliated international organizations, including between their headquarters and field offices, in the planning and implementation of measures aimed at improving staff security, training and awareness, and calls upon all relevant United Nations departments, organizations, funds and programmes and affiliated international organizations to support those efforts;

23. *Calls upon* all relevant actors to make every effort in their public statements to support a favourable environment for the safety and security of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel;

24. *Emphasizes* the need to pay particular attention to the safety and security of locally recruited humanitarian personnel, who are particularly vulnerable to attacks and who account for the majority of casualties, including in cases of kidnapping, harassment, banditry and intimidation, requests the Secretary-General to keep under review the relevant United Nations safety and security policy, operational and administrative arrangements related to locally recruited personnel, and calls upon humanitarian organizations to ensure that their staff are adequately informed about and trained in the relevant security measures, plans and initiatives of their respective organizations, which should be in line with applicable national laws and international law;

25. *Takes note* of the ongoing efforts by the Secretary-General in addressing the recommendations of the Independent Panel on Safety and Security of United Nations Personnel and Premises Worldwide, including on accountability,[193] and looks forward to a progress report on measures to follow up on the recommendations of the Independent Panel and on the independent process on the issue of accountability, to be included in the report of the Secretary-General on safety and security to be submitted to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session;

26. *Requests* the Department of Safety and Security of the Secretariat to continue to improve and implement an effective, modern and flexible information management capacity in support of analytical and operational requirements, including information on the range and scope of security incidents involving humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel, including attacks against them, in order to reduce the risks arising in the context of United Nations-related operations;

27. *Welcomes* the work of the Secretary-General in enhancing security collaboration with host Governments, including efforts to support United Nations designated officials with regard to collaboration with host Government authorities on staff safety and security;

28. *Stresses* that the effective functioning of security operations at the country level requires a unified capacity for policy, standards, coordination, communication, compliance and threat and risk assessment, and notes the benefits thereof to United Nations and associated personnel, including those achieved by the Department of Safety and Security since its establishment;

29. *Recognizes* the steps taken by the Secretary-General thus far, as well as the need for continued efforts to enhance coordination and cooperation, both at the headquarters and at the field levels, between the United Nations and other humanitarian and non-governmental organizations on matters relating to the safety and security of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel, with a view to addressing mutual security concerns in the field, taking into account relevant national and local initiatives in this regard,

inter alia, those derived from the "Saving Lives Together" framework, encourages collaborative initiatives to address security training needs, invites Member States to consider increasing support to those initiatives, and requests the Secretary-General to report on steps taken in this regard;

30. *Underlines* the urgent need to allocate adequate and predictable resources to the safety and security of United Nations personnel, through regular and extrabudgetary resources, including through the consolidated appeals process, and encourages all States to contribute to the Trust Fund for Security of Staff Members of the United Nations System, inter alia, with a view to reinforcing the efforts of the Department of Safety and Security to meet its mandate and responsibilities;

31. *Also underlines* the need for better coordination between the United Nations and host Governments, in accordance with the relevant provisions of international law and national laws, on the use and deployment of essential equipment required to provide for the safety and security of United Nations personnel and associated personnel working in the delivery of humanitarian assistance by United Nations organizations;

32. *Recalls* the essential role of telecommunication resources in facilitating the safety of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel, calls upon States to consider acceding to or ratifying the Tampere Convention on the Provision of Telecommunication Resources for Disaster Mitigation and Relief Operations of 18 June 1998,[199] which entered into force on 8 January 2005, and urges them to facilitate and expedite, consistent with their national laws and international obligations applicable to them, the use of communications equipment in such operations, inter alia, by limiting and, whenever possible, expeditiously lifting the restrictions placed on the use of communications equipment by United Nations and associated personnel;

33. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session a comprehensive and updated report on the safety and security of humanitarian personnel and protection of United Nations personnel and on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 64/78

Adopted at the 60th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2009, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/64/L.17/Rev.1 and Add.1, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, Gabon, Georgia, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Italy, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Mongolia, Montenegro, Myanmar, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, Serbia, Seychelles, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Tunisia, Ukraine, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen

64/78. Return or restitution of cultural property to the countries of origin

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the relevant provisions of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling its resolutions 3026 A (XXVII) of 18 December 1972, 3148 (XXVIII) of 14 December 1973, 3187 (XXVIII) of 18 December 1973, 3391 (XXX) of 19 November 1975, 31/40 of 30 November 1976, 32/18 of 11 November 1977, 33/50 of 14 December 1978, 34/64 of 29 November 1979, 35/127 and 35/128 of 11 December 1980, 36/64 of 27 November 1981, 38/34 of 25 November 1983, 40/19 of 21 November 1985, 42/7 of 22 October 1987, 44/18 of 6 November 1989, 46/10 of 22 October 1991, 48/15 of 2 November 1993, 50/56 of 11 December 1995, 52/24 of 25 November 1997, 54/190 of 17 December 1999, 56/97 of 14 December 2001, 58/17 of 3 December 2003 and 61/52 of 4 December 2006,

Recalling also its resolution 56/8 of 21 November 2001, in which it proclaimed 2002 the United Nations Year for Cultural Heritage,

Recalling further the Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict, adopted at The Hague on 14 May 1954,[200] and the two Protocols thereto, adopted in 1954[200] and 1999,[201]

Recalling the Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property, adopted on 14 November 1970 by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization,[202]

Recalling also the Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage, adopted on 16 November 1972 by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization,[203]

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[199] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2296, No. 40906.

[200] Ibid., vol. 249, No. 3511.

[201] Ibid., vol. 2253, No. 3511.

[202] Ibid., vol. 823, No. 11806.

[203] Ibid., vol. 1037, No. 15511.

Recalling further the Convention on Stolen or Illegally Exported Cultural Objects, adopted in Rome on 24 June 1995 by the International Institute for the Unification of Private Law,[204]

Taking note of the adoption of the Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on 2 November 2001,[205] and its entry into force on 2 January 2009,

Noting the adoption of the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on 17 October 2003,[206] and its entry into force on 20 April 2006, and the Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on 20 October 2005,[207] and its entry into force on 18 March 2007,

Noting also the adoption of the United Nations Convention on Jurisdictional Immunities of States and Their Property on 2 December 2004,[208] as it might apply to cultural property,

Recalling the Medellin Declaration for Cultural Diversity and Tolerance and the Plan of Action on Cultural Cooperation, adopted at the first Meeting of the Ministers of Culture of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Medellin, Colombia, on 4 and 5 September 1997,[209] and the adoption by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on 17 October 2003 of the Declaration concerning the Intentional Destruction of Cultural Heritage,

Noting the adoption of the Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity and the Action Plan for its implementation, adopted by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on 2 November 2001,[205]

Welcoming the report of the Secretary-General submitted in cooperation with the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization,[210]

Commending Member States, cultural and educational institutions, museums and civil society for their efforts to combat the illicit trade in cultural properties, and welcoming all initiatives for the voluntary return of cultural properties that have been illicitly appropriated,

Aware of the importance attached by some countries of origin to the return of cultural property that is of fundamental spiritual, historical and cultural value to them, so that they may constitute collections representative of their cultural heritage,

Expressing concern about the illicit traffic in cultural property and its damage to the cultural heritage of nations,

Reaffirming the necessity of international cooperation in preventing and combating all aspects of trafficking in cultural property,[211] and noting that such cultural property is especially transferred through licit markets, such as auctions, including through the Internet,

Expressing concern about the loss, destruction, removal, theft, pillage, illicit movement or misappropriation of and any acts of vandalism or damage directed against cultural property, in particular in areas of armed conflict, including territories that are occupied, whether such conflicts are international or internal,

Recalling Security Council resolution 1483 (2003), adopted on 22 May 2003, in particular paragraph 7 relating to the restitution of the cultural property of Iraq,

1. *Commends* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the Intergovernmental Committee for Promoting the Return of Cultural Property to its Countries of Origin or its Restitution in Case of Illicit Appropriation on the work they have accomplished, in particular through the promotion of bilateral negotiations, for the return or restitution of cultural property, the preparation of inventories of movable cultural property and the implementation of the Object-ID standard related thereto, as well as for the reduction of illicit traffic in cultural property and the dissemination of information and tools to the public, institutions, Member States and others, and encourages the continuation of such endeavours;

2. *Takes note* of the hosting by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization of regional training sessions and international meetings, such as the 2008

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[204] Available from www.unidroit.org.

[205] See United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Thirty-first Session, Paris, 15 October–3 November 2001*, vol. 1 and corrigendum: *Resolutions*.

[206] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2368, No. 42671.

[207] See United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Thirty-third Session, Paris, 3–21 October 2005*, vol. 1 and corrigenda: *Resolutions*.

[208] Resolution 59/38, annex.

[209] A/52/432, annexes I and II.

[210] See A/64/303.

[211] It is understood that the expression "trafficking in cultural property" shall be interpreted in conformity with the relevant international instruments, including the Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property.

Athens International Conference on the Return of Cultural Property to its Country of Origin and the 2008 extraordinary session of the Intergovernmental Committee for Promoting the Return of Cultural Property to its Countries of Origin or its Restitution in Case of Illicit Appropriation, held in Seoul, in celebration of its thirtieth anniversary, as well as their recommendations, and the 2008 meeting of the non-governmental experts, held during the extraordinary session of the Intergovernmental Committee, under the auspices of the Republic of Korea;

3. *Calls upon* all relevant bodies, agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system and other relevant intergovernmental organizations to work in coordination with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, within their mandates and in cooperation with Member States, in order to continue to address the issue of return or restitution of cultural property to the countries of origin and to provide appropriate support accordingly;

4. *Reaffirms* the importance of the Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property,[203] as well as the Convention on Stolen or Illegally Exported Cultural Objects of the International Institute for the Unification of Private Law,[204] and of their implementation, and invites Member States that have not already done so to consider becoming parties to these Conventions;

5. *Recognizes* the importance of the Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage[205] and the Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions,[206] and invites Member States that have not already done so to consider becoming parties to these Conventions;

6. *Also recognizes* the importance of the United Nations Convention on Jurisdictional Immunities of States and Their Property,[207] notes that this Convention has still not entered into force, and invites Member States that have not already done so to consider becoming parties to the Convention;

7. *Reaffirms* the importance of the principles and provisions of the Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict,[208] and of their implementation, and invites Member States that have not already done so to consider becoming parties to the Convention;

8. *Also reaffirms* the importance of the Second Protocol to the Convention, adopted at The Hague on 26 March 1999,[209] and of its implementation, and invites all States parties to the Convention that have not already done so to consider becoming parties to the Second Protocol;

9. *Welcomes* the most recent efforts made by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization for the protection of the cultural heritage of countries in conflict, including the safe return to those countries of cultural property and other items of archaeological, historical, cultural, rare scientific and religious importance that have been illegally removed, and calls upon the international community to contribute to these efforts;

10. *Urges* Member States to introduce effective national and international measures to prevent and combat illicit trafficking in cultural property, including by publicizing legislation and offering special training for police, customs and border services;

11. *Invites* Member States, in cooperation with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, to continue to draw up systematic inventories of their cultural property, as well as to work towards the creation of a database of their national cultural legislation, in particular in electronic format;

12. *Recognizes* the advancement of the Database of National Cultural Heritage Laws of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, which includes legislation from one hundred and seventy-six Member States, and invites Member States to provide their legislation in electronic format for inclusion in the database if they have not yet done so, to provide regular updates to the database and to promote it;

13. *Applauds* the efforts of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to promote the use of identification and inventory systems, in particular the application of the Object-ID standard, and to encourage the linking of identification systems and existing databases, including the one developed by the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL), to allow for the electronic transmission of information in order to reduce illicit trafficking in cultural property, and encourages the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to make further efforts in this regard in cooperation with Member States, where appropriate;

14. *Notes* that the statutes of the Intergovernmental Committee for Promoting the Return of Cultural Property to its Countries of Origin or its Restitution in Case of Illicit Appropriation include mediation and conciliation processes, and invites Member States to consider the possibility of using such processes as appropriate;

15. *Also notes* the Model Export Certificate for Cultural Objects developed by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the World Customs Organization as a tool to combat illicit trafficking in cultural property, and invites Member States to consider adopting the model export certificate as their national export certificate, in accordance with domestic law and procedures;

16. *Notes with interest* that issues such as model legal provisions relating to state ownership of cultural property, a database of best practices in the field of return and restitution of cultural property to its countries of origin, and legal and ethical principles supporting protection of and return mechanisms for

cultural property, are being considered by the Intergovernmental Committee for Promoting the Return of Cultural Property to its Countries of Origin or its Restitution in Case of Illicit Appropriation;

17. *Notes* the decision taken in resolution 41, adopted on 23 October 2009 by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization at its thirty-fifth session, on the issue of cultural objects displaced in connection with the Second World War;[212]

18. *Recognizes* the public awareness and increased mobilization and action in favour of heritage values that was achieved in 2002, the United Nations Year for Cultural Heritage, and calls upon the international community and the United Nations to continue to cooperate with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on the basis of that work;

19. *Welcomes* the endorsement of the International Code of Ethics for Dealers in Cultural Property by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on 16 November 1999,[213] which was adopted in January 1999 by the Intergovernmental Committee for Promoting the Return of Cultural Property to its Countries of Origin or its Restitution in Case of Illicit Appropriation, and invites those who deal with trade in cultural property and their associations, where they exist, to encourage the implementation of the Code;

20. *Recognizes* the importance of the creation, by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, of the International Fund for the Return of Cultural Property to its Countries of Origin or its Restitution in Case of Illicit Appropriation, launched in November 2000, and encourages the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to continue to promote the Fund and render it operational;

21. *Also recognizes* the importance of cooperation amongst States in the fight against illicit trafficking in cultural property, as well as its illegal removal from the countries of origin, through, inter alia, mutual legal assistance, including the prosecution of persons involved in such activities and extradition, in accordance with the laws of cooperating States and under applicable international law;

22. *Requests* the Secretary-General to cooperate with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in its efforts to bring about the attainment of the objectives of the present resolution;

23. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in cooperation with the Director General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-seventh session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

24. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-seventh session the item entitled "Return or restitution of cultural property to the countries of origin".

RESOLUTION 64/79

Adopted at the 60th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2009, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/64/L.28 and Add.1, sponsored by: Albania, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Canada, Chile, Croatia, Cuba, Finland, France, Germany, Grenada, Guyana, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Latvia, Luxembourg, Monaco, Netherlands, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Slovenia, Spain, Suriname, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Zambia (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States)

64/79. 2001–2010: Decade to Roll Back Malaria in Developing Countries, Particularly in Africa

The General Assembly,

Recalling that the period 2001–2010 has been proclaimed the Decade to Roll Back Malaria in Developing Countries, Particularly in Africa, by the General Assembly,[214] and that combating HIV/AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis and other diseases is included in the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Recalling also its resolution 63/234 of 22 December 2008 and all previous resolutions concerning the struggle against malaria in developing countries, particularly in Africa,

Recalling further World Health Assembly resolution 60.18 of 23 May 2007 urging a broad range of national and international actions to scale up malaria control programmes[215] and resolution 61.18 of 24 May 2008 on monitoring of the achievement of the health-related Millennium Development Goals,[216]

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[212] See United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Thirty-fifth Session, Paris, 6–23 October 2009*, vol. 1 and corrigenda: *Resolutions*.

[213] See United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Thirtieth Session, Paris, 26 October–17 November 1999*, vol. 1 and corrigendum: *Resolutions*.

[214] See resolution 55/284.

[215] See World Health Organization, *Sixtieth World Health Assembly, Geneva, 14–23 May 2007, Resolutions and Decisions, Annexes* (WHASS1/2006-WHA60/2007/REC/1).

[216] See World Health Organization, *Sixty-first World Health Assembly, Geneva, 19–24 May 2008, Resolutions and Decisions, Annexes* (WHA61/2008/REC/1).

Bearing in mind the relevant resolutions of the Economic and Social Council relating to the struggle against malaria and diarrhoeal diseases, in particular resolution 1998/36 of 30 July 1998,

Taking note of the declarations and decisions on health issues adopted by the Organization of African Unity, in particular the declaration and plan of action on the "Roll Back Malaria" initiative adopted at the Extraordinary Summit of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, held in Abuja on 24 and 25 April 2000,[217] as well as decision AHG/Dec.155 (XXXVI) concerning the implementation of that declaration and plan of action, adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its thirty-sixth ordinary session, held in Lomé from 10 to 12 July 2000,[218]

Also taking note of the Maputo Declaration on Malaria, HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Other Related Infectious Diseases, adopted by the Assembly of the African Union at its second ordinary session, held in Maputo from 10 to 12 July 2003,[219] and the Abuja call for accelerated action towards universal access to HIV and AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria services in Africa, issued by the Heads of State and Government of the African Union at the special summit of the African Union on HIV and AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria, held in Abuja, from 2 to 4 May 2006,

Recognizing the linkages in efforts being made to reach the targets set at the Abuja Summit in 2000 as necessary and important for the attainment of the "Roll Back Malaria" goal and the targets of the Millennium Development Goals by 2010 and 2015, respectively, and welcoming in this regard the commitment of Member States to respond to the specific needs of Africa,

Also recognizing that malaria-related ill health and deaths throughout the world can be substantially reduced with political commitment and commensurate resources if the public is educated and sensitized about malaria and appropriate health services are made available, particularly in countries where the disease is endemic,

Acknowledging the progress made in parts of Africa in reversing the malaria epidemic through political engagement and sustainable national malaria control programmes, and recognizing the challenges of making the most effective use of available resources as well as rapid and accurate diagnoses,

Expressing concern about the continued morbidity, mortality and debility attributed to malaria, and recalling that more efforts are needed if the malaria targets for 2010 and the malaria and Millennium Development Goal targets for 2015 are to be reached on time,

Emphasizing the importance of strengthening health systems to effectively support malaria control and elimination,

Commending the efforts of the World Health Organization, the United Nations Children's Fund, the Roll Back Malaria Partnership, the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, the World Bank and other partners to fight malaria over the years,

Taking note with appreciation of the Roll Back Malaria Global Strategic Plan 2005–2015 and the Global Malaria Action Plan developed by the Roll Back Malaria Partnership,

1. *Welcomes* the report prepared by the World Health Organization,[220] and calls for support for the recommendations contained therein;

2. *Encourages* Member States, relevant organizations of the United Nations system, international institutions, non-governmental organizations, the private sector and civil society to continue to observe World Malaria Day and to collaborate in the observance of the final year of the Decade to Roll Back Malaria in Developing Countries, Particularly in Africa, in order to raise public awareness of and knowledge about the prevention, control and treatment of malaria as well as the importance of meeting the Millennium Development Goals;

3. *Encourages* the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Malaria to continue raising the issue in collaboration with other United Nations organizations already working on those issues on the international political and development agendas and to work with national and global leaders to help to secure the political will, the partnerships and the funds to drastically reduce malaria deaths by 2010 through increased access to protection and treatment, especially in Africa;

4. *Welcomes* the launch on 23 September 2009 in New York of the African Leaders Malaria Alliance to provide political leadership at the highest level in the fight against malaria in Africa;

5. *Also welcomes* the United Against Malaria campaign which aims at uniting football stars and teams, governmental and non-governmental organizations, foundations and corporations in the fight against malaria ahead of the 2010 International Federation of Association Football World Cup event, to be held in South Africa;

6. *Further welcomes* the increased funding for malaria interventions and for research and development of preventive and control tools from the international community, through funding from multilateral and bilateral sources and from the

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[217] See A/55/240/Add.1, annex.

[218] See A/55/286, annex II.

[219] A/58/626, annex I, Assembly/AU/Decl.6 (II).

[220] See A/64/302.

private sector, as well as by making predictable financing available through appropriate and effective aid modalities and in-country health financing mechanisms aligned with national priorities, which are key to strengthening health systems and promoting universal and equitable access to high-quality malaria prevention and treatment services;

7. *Urges* the international community, together with United Nations agencies and private organizations and foundations, to support the implementation of the Global Malaria Action Plan, including through support for programmes and activities at the country level in order to achieve internationally agreed targets on malaria;

8. *Calls upon* the international community to continue to support the secretariat of the Roll Back Malaria Partnership and partner organizations, including the World Health Organization, the World Bank and the United Nations Children's Fund, as vital complementary sources of support for the efforts of malaria-endemic countries to combat the disease;

9. *Appeals* to the international community to work in a spirit of cooperation towards effective, increased, harmonized and sustained bilateral and multilateral assistance to combat malaria, including support for the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, in order to assist States, in particular malaria-endemic countries, to implement sound national plans, in particular health plans and sanitation plans, including malaria control strategies and integrated management of childhood illnesses, in a sustained and equitable way that, inter alia, contributes to health system development;

10. *Appeals* to the malaria partners to resolve the financial and delivery bottlenecks that are responsible for stock-outs of long-lasting insecticide-treated nets, artemisinin-based combination therapies and rapid diagnostic tests at the national level, whenever they occur, including through the strengthening of malaria programme management at the country level;

11. *Welcomes* the contribution to the mobilization of additional and predictable resources for development by voluntary innovative financing initiatives taken by groups of Member States, and in this regard notes the International Drug Purchase Facility, UNITAID, the International Finance Facility for Immunization, the Affordable Medicines Facility for Malaria, the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization, the advance market commitment initiatives and the work of the High-level Taskforce on Innovative International Financing for Health Systems;

12. *Urges* malaria-endemic countries to work towards financial sustainability, to increase, to the extent possible, domestic resource allocation to malaria control and to create favourable conditions for working with the private sector in order to improve access to good-quality malaria services;

13. *Urges* Member States to assess and respond to the needs for integrated human resources at all levels of the health system, in order to achieve the targets of the Abuja Declaration on Roll Back Malaria in Africa[217] and the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, to take actions, as appropriate, to effectively govern the recruitment, training and retention of skilled health personnel, and to give particular focus to the availability of skilled personnel at all levels to meet technical and operational needs as increased funding for malaria control programmes becomes available;

14. *Calls upon* the international community, inter alia, by helping to meet the financial needs of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria and through country-led initiatives with adequate international support, to intensify access to affordable, safe and effective antimalarial combination treatments, intermittent preventive treatment in pregnancies, adequate diagnostic facilities, long-lasting insecticide-treated mosquito nets, including, where appropriate, through the free distribution of such nets and, where appropriate, to insecticides for indoor residual spraying for malaria control, taking into account relevant international rules, including the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants[221] standards and guidelines;

15. *Requests* relevant international organizations, in particular the World Health Organization and the United Nations Children's Fund, to assist efforts of national Governments to provide universal access to malaria control interventions especially to address at-risk young children and pregnant women in malaria-endemic countries, particularly in Africa, as rapidly as possible, with due regard to ensuring proper use of those interventions, including long-lasting insecticide nets, and sustainability through full community participation and implementation through the health system;

16. *Calls upon* Member States, in particular malaria-endemic countries, with the support of the international community, to establish and/or strengthen national policies and operational plans, with a view to scaling up efforts to achieve internationally agreed malaria targets for 2010 and 2015, in accordance with the technical recommendations of the World Health Organization;

17. *Encourages* all African countries that have not yet done so to implement the recommendations of the Abuja Summit in 2000 to reduce or waive taxes and tariffs for nets and other products needed for malaria control,[217] both to reduce the price of the products to consumers and to stimulate free trade in those products;

18. *Calls upon* United Nations agencies and their partners to continue to provide the technical support necessary to build and enhance the capacity of Member States to implement the Global Malaria Action Plan and meet the internationally agreed goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;

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[221] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2256, No. 40214.

19. *Expresses its concern* about the increase in resistant strains of malaria in several regions of the world, and calls upon Member States, with support from the World Health Organization and other partners, to strengthen surveillance systems for drug and insecticide resistance and upon the World Health Organization to coordinate a global network for the monitoring of drug and insecticide resistance and to ensure that drug and insecticide testing is fully operational in order to enhance the use of current insecticide- and artemisinin-based combination therapies;

20. *Urges* all Member States experiencing resistance to conventional monotherapies to replace them with combination therapies, as recommended by the World Health Organization, and to develop the necessary financial, legislative and regulatory mechanisms in order to introduce artemisinin combination therapies at affordable prices and to prohibit the marketing of oral artemisinin monotherapies, in a timely manner;

21. *Recognizes* the importance of the development of safe and cost-effective vaccines and new medicines to prevent and treat malaria and the need for further and accelerated research, including into safe, effective and high-quality traditional therapies, using rigorous standards, including by providing support to the Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases[222] and through effective global partnerships, such as the various malaria vaccine initiatives and the Medicines for Malaria Venture, where necessary stimulated by new incentives to secure their development and through effective and timely support towards pre-qualification of new antimalarials and their combinations;

22. *Calls upon* the international community, including through existing partnerships, to increase investment in and efforts towards the research and development of new, safe and affordable malaria-related medicines, products and technologies, such as vaccines, rapid diagnostic tests, insecticides and delivery modes, to prevent and treat malaria, especially for at-risk children and pregnant women, in order to enhance effectiveness and delay the onset of resistance;

23. *Calls upon* malaria-endemic countries to assure favourable conditions for research institutions, including allocation of adequate resources and development of national policies and legal frameworks, where appropriate, with a view to, inter alia, informing policy formulation and strategic interventions on malaria;

24. *Reaffirms* the right to use, to the fullest extent, the provisions contained in the World Trade Organization Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS Agreement),[223] the Doha Declaration on the TRIPS Agreement and Public Health,[224] the decision of the World Trade Organization's General Council of 30 August 2003[225] and amendments to article 31 of the Agreement,[226] which provide flexibilities for the protection of public health, and in particular to promote access to medicines for all, including the production, under compulsory licensing, of generic drugs in the prevention and treatment of malaria, and resolves to assist developing countries in this regard;

25. *Calls upon* the international community to support ways to expand access to and the affordability of key products, such as vector control measures, including indoor residual spraying, long-lasting insecticide-treated nets and artemisinin-based combination therapy for populations at risk of exposure to resistant strains of falciparum malaria in malaria-endemic countries, particularly in Africa, including through additional funds and innovative mechanisms, inter alia, for the financing and scaling up of artemisinin production and procurement, as appropriate, to meet the increased need;

26. *Welcomes* the increased level of public-private partnerships for malaria control and prevention, including the financial and in-kind contributions of private sector partners and companies operating in Africa, as well as the increased engagement of non-governmental service providers;

27. *Encourages* the producers of long-lasting insecticide-treated nets to accelerate technology transfer to developing countries, and invites the World Bank and regional development funds to consider supporting malaria-endemic countries in establishing factories to scale up production of long-lasting insecticide-treated nets;

28. *Calls upon* the international community and malaria-endemic countries, in accordance with existing guidelines and recommendations of the World Health Organization and the requirements of the Stockholm Convention, to increase capacity for the safe, effective and judicious use of indoor residual spraying and other forms of vector control and for quality control measures to ensure conformity with international rules, standards and guidelines;

29. *Urges* the international community to become fully knowledgeable about World Health Organization technical policies and strategies and the provisions in the Stockholm Convention related to the use of DDT, including for indoor

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[222] A joint programme of the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Development Programme, the World Bank and the World Health Organization.

[223] See *Legal Instruments Embodying the Results of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations, done at Marrakesh on 15 April 1994* (GATT secretariat publication, Sales No. GATT/1994-7).

[224] World Trade Organization, document WT/MIN(01)/DEC/2. Available from http://docsonline.wto.org.

[225] See World Trade Organization, document WT/L/540 and Corr.1. Available from http://docsonline.wto.org.

[226] See World Trade Organization, document WT/L/641. Available from http://docsonline.wto.org.

residual spraying, long-lasting insecticide-treated nets and case management, intermittent preventive treatment for pregnant women and monitoring of in vivo resistance studies to artemisinin-based combination therapy treatment, so that projects support those policies, strategies and provisions;

30. *Requests* the World Health Organization, the United Nations Children's Fund and donor agencies to provide support to those countries which choose to use DDT for indoor residual spraying so as to ensure that it is implemented in accordance with international rules, standards and guidelines, and to provide all possible support to malaria-endemic countries to manage the intervention effectively and prevent the contamination, in particular, of agricultural products with DDT and other insecticides used for indoor residual spraying;

31. *Encourages* the World Health Organization and its member States, with the support of the parties to the Stockholm Convention, to continue to explore possible alternatives to DDT as a vector control agent;

32. *Calls upon* malaria-endemic countries to encourage regional and intersectoral collaboration, both public and private, at all levels, especially in education, health, agriculture, economic development and the environment, to advance malaria control objectives;

33. *Calls upon* the international community to support the strengthening of health systems and national pharmaceutical policies, to monitor and fight against the trade in counterfeit antimalarial medicines and prevent their distribution and use, and to support coordinated efforts, inter alia, by providing technical assistance to improve surveillance, monitoring and evaluation systems and their alignment with national plans and systems so as to better track and report changes in coverage, the need for scaling up recommended interventions and the subsequent reductions in the burden of malaria;

34. *Urges* Member States, the international community and all relevant actors, including the private sector, to promote the coordinated implementation and enhance the quality of malaria-related activities, including via the Roll Back Malaria Partnership, in accordance with national policies and operational plans that are consistent with the technical recommendations of the World Health Organization and recent efforts and initiatives, including, where appropriate, the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness and the Accra Agenda for Action, adopted during the Third High-level Forum on Aid Effectiveness, held in Accra from 2 to 4 September 2008;[227]

35. *Notes* that the 2010 High-level Plenary Meeting of the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly will provide an opportunity to review progress in achieving the Millennium Development Goals, and requests the Secretary-General, in close collaboration with the Director-General of the World Health Organization and in consultation with Member States, to submit to the Assembly at its sixty-fifth session a report on progress towards achieving the internationally agreed targets for 2010 and an evaluation of the implementation of the first Decade to Roll Back Malaria in Developing Countries, Particularly in Africa, including recommendations for further actions.

RESOLUTION 64/80

Adopted at the 60th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2009, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/64/L.5 and Add.1, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

64/80. International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World, 2001–2010

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind the Charter of the United Nations, including the purposes and principles contained therein, and especially the dedication to saving succeeding generations from the scourge of war,

Recalling the Constitution of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, which states that, "since wars begin in the minds of men, it is in the minds of men that the defences of peace must be constructed",

Recalling also its previous resolutions on a culture of peace, in particular resolution 52/15 of 20 November 1997 proclaiming 2000 the International Year for the Culture of Peace, resolution 53/25 of 10 November 1998 proclaiming the period 2001–2010 the International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World, and resolutions 56/5 of 5 November 2001, 57/6 of 4 November 2002, 58/11 of 10 November 2003, 59/143 of 15 December 2004, 60/3 of

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[227] A/63/539, annex.

20 October 2005, 61/45 of 4 December 2006, 62/89 of 17 December 2007 and 63/113 of 5 December 2008,

Reaffirming the Declaration[228] and Programme of Action[229] on a Culture of Peace, recognizing that they serve, inter alia, as the basis for the observance of the Decade, and convinced that the effective and successful observance of the Decade throughout the world will promote a culture of peace and non-violence that benefits humanity, in particular future generations,

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[230] which calls for the active promotion of a culture of peace,

Taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 2000/66 of 26 April 2000, entitled "Towards a culture of peace",[231]

Taking note also of the report of the Secretary-General on the International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World,[232] including paragraph 28 thereof, which indicates that each of the ten years of the Decade will be marked with a different priority theme related to the Programme of Action,

Noting the relevance of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, held in Johannesburg, South Africa, from 26 August to 4 September 2002, the International Conference on Financing for Development, held in Monterrey, Mexico, from 18 to 22 March 2002, the special session of the General Assembly on children, held in New York from 8 to 10 May 2002, the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, held in Durban, South Africa, from 31 August to 8 September 2001, and the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education, 1995–2004, for the International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World, 2001–2010, as well as the need to implement, as appropriate, the relevant decisions agreed upon therein,

Recognizing that all efforts made by the United Nations system in general and the international community at large for peacekeeping, peacebuilding, the prevention of conflicts, disarmament, sustainable development, the promotion of human dignity and human rights, democracy, the rule of law, good governance and gender equality at the national and international levels contribute greatly to the culture of peace,

Noting that its resolution 57/337 of 3 July 2003 on the prevention of armed conflict could contribute to the further promotion of a culture of peace,

Taking into account the "Manifesto 2000" initiative of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization promoting a culture of peace, which has so far received over seventy-five million signatures of endorsement throughout the world,

Taking note with appreciation of the report of the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on the implementation of resolution 63/113,[233]

Taking note of the 2005 World Summit Outcome adopted at the High-level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly,[234]

Welcoming the designation of 2 October as the International Day of Non-Violence,[235]

Recalling the proclamation by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization of 21 February as the International Mother Language Day, which aims at promoting and preserving linguistic and cultural diversity, and multilingualism, in order to foster a culture of peace, harmony, cross-cultural dialogue and mutual understanding,

Appreciating the ongoing efforts of the Alliance of Civilizations and the Tripartite Forum on Interfaith Cooperation for Peace in promoting a culture of peace,

Welcoming the appointment of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children,

1. *Reiterates* that the objective of the International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World, 2001–2010, is to strengthen further the global movement for a culture of peace following the observance of the International Year for the Culture of Peace in 2000;

2. *Invites* Member States to continue to place greater emphasis on and expand their activities promoting a culture of peace and non-violence, in particular during the Decade, at the national, regional and international levels and to ensure that peace and non-violence are fostered at all levels;

3. *Commends* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization for recognizing the promotion of a culture of peace as the expression of its fundamental mandate, and encourages it, as the lead agency for the Decade, to strengthen further the activities it has undertaken for promoting a culture of peace, including the dissemination of the Declaration[228] and Programme of Action[229] on a Culture of Peace and related materials in various languages across the world;

4. *Commends* the relevant United Nations bodies, in particular the United Nations Children's Fund, the United

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[228] Resolution 53/243 A.

[229] Resolution 53/243 B.

[230] See resolution 55/2.

[231] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2000, Supplement No. 3* and corrigendum (E/2000/23 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A.

[232] A/56/349.

[233] See A/64/312.

[234] See resolution 60/1.

[235] See resolution 61/271.

Nations Development Fund for Women and the University for Peace, for their activities in further promoting a culture of peace and non-violence, including the promotion of peace education and activities related to specific areas identified in the Programme of Action, and encourages them to continue and further strengthen and expand their efforts;

5. *Encourages* the Peacebuilding Commission to continue to promote a culture of peace and non-violence for children in its activities;

6. *Encourages* the appropriate authorities to provide education, in children's schools, that includes lessons in mutual understanding, tolerance, active citizenship, human rights and the promotion of a culture of peace;

7. *Commends* civil society, including non-governmental organizations and young people, for their activities in further promoting a culture of peace and non-violence, including through their campaign to raise awareness on a culture of peace, and takes note of the progress achieved by more than seven hundred organizations in more than one hundred countries;

8. *Encourages* civil society, including non-governmental organizations, to further strengthen its efforts in furtherance of the objectives of the Decade, inter alia, by adopting its own programme of activities to complement the initiatives of Member States, the organizations of the United Nations system and other international and regional organizations;

9. *Encourages* the involvement of the mass media in education for a culture of peace and non-violence, with particular regard to children and young people, including through the planned expansion of the Culture of Peace News Network as a global network of Internet sites in many languages;

10. *Welcomes* the efforts made by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to continue the communication and networking arrangements established during the International Year for providing an instant update of developments related to the observance of the Decade;

11. *Takes note with appreciation* of the initiative of the Special Unit for South-South Cooperation of the United Nations Development Programme, in partnership with the United Nations Human Settlements Programme and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to include the theme "culture of peace" in the Creative Economy Week to be held from 19 to 24 October 2010 as part of the activities of the United Nations pavilion at the 2010 World Exposition in Shanghai, China;

12. *Invites* Member States to observe 21 September each year as the International Day of Peace, as a day of global ceasefire and non-violence, in accordance with resolution 55/282 of 7 September 2001;

13. *Invites* Member States, as well as civil society, including non-governmental organizations, to continue providing information to the Secretary-General on the observance of the Decade and the activities undertaken to promote a culture of peace and non-violence;

14. *Appreciates* the participation of Member States in the day of plenary meetings to review progress made in the implementation of the Declaration and Programme of Action and the observance of the Decade at its midpoint;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to explore enhancing mechanisms for the implementation of the Declaration and Programme of Action;

16. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

17. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session a summary report on the activities carried out in the past ten years by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and other United Nations entities, Member States and civil society, including non-governmental organizations, to promote and implement the Programme of Action;

18. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled "Culture of peace".

RESOLUTION 64/81

Adopted at the 60th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2009, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/64/L.15/Rev.1 and Add.1, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Albania, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, China, Comoros, Congo, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Grenada, Haiti, Honduras, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Mali, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Myanmar, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Turkmenistan, United Arab Emirates, Uruguay, Vanuatu

64/81. Promotion of interreligious and intercultural dialogue, understanding and cooperation for peace

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[236] in particular the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion,

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[236] Resolution 217 A (III).

Recalling its resolutions 56/6 of 9 November 2001, on the Global Agenda for Dialogue among Civilizations, 57/6 of 4 November 2002, on the International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World, 2001–2010, 57/337 of 3 July 2003, on the prevention of armed conflict, 58/128 of 19 December 2003, on the promotion of religious and cultural understanding, harmony and cooperation, 59/23 of 11 November 2004, on the promotion of interreligious dialogue, 61/17 of 20 November 2006, on the International Year of Reconciliation, 2009, 62/155 of 18 December 2007, on human rights and cultural diversity, 63/113 of 5 December 2008, on the International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World, 2001–2010, and 63/181 of 18 December 2008, on the elimination of all forms of intolerance and of discrimination based on religion or belief,

Recalling also its resolution 63/22 of 13 November 2008, on the promotion of interreligious and intercultural dialogue, understanding and cooperation for peace, and the leading role played by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in the preparations for the celebration of the International Year for the Rapprochement of Cultures, in 2010,

Bearing in mind the valuable contribution that dialogue among civilizations can make to an improved awareness and understanding of the common values shared by all humankind,

Noting that interreligious and intercultural dialogue has made significant contributions to mutual understanding, the promotion of a culture of peace and tolerance and an improvement of overall relations among people from different cultural and religious backgrounds and among nations,

Recognizing that cultural diversity and the pursuit of cultural development by all peoples and nations are sources of mutual enrichment for the cultural life of humankind,

Noting the various initiatives at the national, regional and international levels for enhancing dialogue, understanding and cooperation among religions, cultures and civilizations,[237] which are all mutually reinforcing and interrelated,

Noting also the commemoration of the International Year of Reconciliation, 2009,[238]

Encouraging activities aimed at promoting interreligious and intercultural dialogue in order to enhance social stability, respect for diversity, and mutual respect in diverse communities, and create, at the global level, and also at the regional, national and local levels, an environment conducive to peace and mutual understanding,

Noting with appreciation the decision taken in resolution 47, adopted on 23 October 2009 by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization at its thirty-fifth session, to approve the preliminary action plan for the celebration of the International Year for the Rapprochement of Cultures, in 2010,[239]

Affirming the importance of sustaining the process of engaging all stakeholders in the interreligious, intercultural and intercivilizational dialogue within the appropriate initiatives at the various levels,

Recognizing the commitment of all religions to peace,

1. *Affirms* that mutual understanding and interreligious dialogue constitute important dimensions of the dialogue among civilizations and of the culture of peace;

2. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on interreligious and intercultural dialogue, understanding and cooperation for peace;[240]

3. *Notes* the work of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on interreligious dialogue in the context of its efforts to promote dialogue among civilizations, cultures and peoples, as well as activities related to a culture of peace, and welcomes its focus on concrete action at the global, regional and subregional levels;

4. *Reaffirms* the solemn commitment of all States to fulfil their obligations to promote universal respect for, and observance and protection of, all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[236] and other instruments relating to human rights and international law, the universal nature of these rights and freedoms being beyond question;

5. *Encourages* the promotion of dialogue among the media from all cultures and civilizations, emphasizes that everyone has the right to freedom of expression, and reaffirms that the exercise of this right carries with it special duties and

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[237] Third Global Inter-Media Dialogue, Bali, Indonesia, 7 and 8 May 2008; World Conference on Dialogue, Madrid, 16–18 July 2008; Third Congress of Leaders of World and Traditional Religions, Astana, 1 and 2 July 2009, with the participation and technical assistance of the United Nations system; Fifth Asia-Europe Meeting Interfaith Dialogue, Seoul, 23–25 September 2009; Seventh Rhodes Forum, "Dialogue of Civilizations", Rhodes, Greece, 8–12 October 2009; Fifth Asia-Pacific Regional Interfaith Dialogue, Perth, Australia, 28–30 October 2009; Parliament of the World's Religions, Melbourne, Australia, from 3 to 9 December 2009; Third Forum of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations, to be held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 27 to 29 May 2010; and Special Non-Aligned Movement Ministerial Meeting on Interfaith Dialogue and Cooperation for Peace and Development, to be held in Manila in 2010.

[238] See resolution 61/17.

[239] See United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Thirty-fifth Session, Paris, 6–23 October 2009*, vol. 1 and corrigenda: *Resolutions*.

[240] A/64/325.

responsibilities and may therefore be subject to certain restrictions, but these shall be only such as are provided by law and necessary for respect of the rights or reputations of others, protection of national security or of public order, or of public health or morals;[241]

6. *Encourages* Member States to consider, as and where appropriate, initiatives that identify areas for practical action in all sectors and levels of society for the promotion of interreligious and intercultural dialogue, tolerance, understanding and cooperation, inter alia, the ideas suggested during the High-level Dialogue on Interreligious and Intercultural Understanding and Cooperation for Peace, held on 4 and 5 October 2007, including the idea of an enhanced process of dialogue among world religions;

7. *Takes note* of the Fourth Ministerial Meeting on Interfaith Dialogue and Cooperation for Peace, held on 25 September 2009 in New York;

8. *Supports* the proposal of the President of the General Assembly to hold, at its sixty-fourth session, an informal thematic debate on dialogue among civilizations;[242]

9. *Urges* Member States, in the context of the International Year of Reconciliation, 2009, to further promote reconciliation to help to ensure durable peace and sustained development, including through reconciliatory measures and acts of service and by encouraging forgiveness and compassion among individuals;

10. *Encourages* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, as the lead agency for the International Year for the Rapprochement of Cultures, to promote the action plan for the celebration of the Year, and encourages Member States and all organizations and institutions, including civil society organizations, working to promote the rapprochement of cultures to join in the celebration of the Year in order to demonstrate their firm commitment to intercultural dialogue, including interreligious dialogue;

11. *Invites* the Secretary-General to organize, within existing resources, a special activity to launch the celebration of the International Year for the Rapprochement of Cultures, which could include the ringing of the peace bell;

12. *Recognizes* that the Office for Economic and Social Council Support and Coordination in the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat plays a valuable role as focal point within the Secretariat on the issue, and encourages it to continue to interact and coordinate with the relevant entities of the United Nations system and coordinate their contribution to the intergovernmental process;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution and, at its sixty-sixth session, in coordination with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, to further solicit views of Member States on the possibility of proclaiming a United Nations decade for interreligious and intercultural dialogue and cooperation for peace, building on the information contained in the reports of the Secretary-General at the sixty-fourth and sixty-fifth sessions and the relevant initiatives to be taken in the course of 2010.

RESOLUTION 64/108

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 10 December 2009, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/64/L.16 and Add.1, sponsored by: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Bahamas, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burundi, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Dominican Republic, Egypt, El Salvador, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Mozambique, Norway, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Slovenia, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Zimbabwe

64/108. Global health and foreign policy

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 63/33 of 26 November 2008, entitled "Global health and foreign policy",

Recalling also the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields, especially those related to global health,

Recalling further that achieving the health-related Millennium Development Goals is essential to socio-economic development, concerned by the relatively slow progress in achieving them, and mindful that special consideration should be given to the situation in sub-Saharan Africa,

Noting the adoption by the World Health Assembly on 24 May 2008 of its resolution 61.18,[243] by which it initiated its annual monitoring of the achievement of the health-related Millennium Development Goals,

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[241] See article 19, paras. 2 and 3 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex).

[242] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Plenary Meetings*, 41st meeting (A/64/PV.41), and corrigendum.

[243] See World Health Organization, *Sixty-first World Health Assembly, Geneva, 19–24 May 2008, Resolutions and Decisions, Annexes* (WHA61/2008/REC/1).

Recalling its resolutions 58/3 of 27 October 2003, 59/27 of 23 November 2004 and 60/35 of 30 November 2005, all entitled "Enhancing capacity-building in global public health", the resolutions of the World Health Assembly, in particular resolution 60.28 of 23 May 2007[244] and resolution 62.10 of 22 May 2009,[245] both entitled "Pandemic influenza preparedness: sharing of influenza viruses and access to vaccines and other benefits", and resolution 62.16 of 22 May 2009, entitled "Global strategy and plan of action on public health, innovation and intellectual property,[245]

Noting the contribution of the High-level Forum on Advancing Global Health in the Face of Crisis, which took place at United Nations Headquarters on 15 June 2009 and engaged multisectoral high representatives from around the world in the global health debate on protecting vulnerable populations, building resilient health systems and enhancing coherence towards multi-stakeholder strategic partnerships,

Welcoming the outcome of the annual ministerial review held by the Economic and Social Council in 2009, on the theme "Implementing the internationally agreed goals and commitments in regard to global public health",[246]

Recognizing the leading role of the World Health Organization as the primary specialized agency for health, including its roles and functions with regard to health policy in accordance with its mandate,

Noting the role and contribution of the Foreign Policy and Global Health Initiative in promoting synergy between foreign policy and global health, as well as the contribution of the Oslo Ministerial Declaration entitled "Global health: a pressing foreign policy issue of our time"[247] to placing health as a foreign policy issue on the international agenda,

Noting also the outcome of the Thirty-fourth Summit of the Group of Eight, held in Toyako, Hokkaido, Japan, from 7 to 9 July 2008, which highlighted the principles for action on global health to achieve all the health-related Millennium Development Goals,

Emphasizing that the United Nations system has an important responsibility to assist Governments in the follow-up to and full implementation of agreements and commitments reached at the major United Nations conferences and summits, especially those focusing on health-related areas,

Underscoring the fact that global health is also a long-term objective which is local, national, regional and international in scope and requires sustained attention, commitment and closer international cooperation beyond emergency,

Reaffirming the commitment to strengthening health systems that deliver equitable health outcomes as the basis for a comprehensive approach, which requires appropriate attention to, inter alia, health financing, the health workforce, the procurement and distribution of medicines and vaccines, infrastructure, information systems, service delivery and political will in leadership and governance,

Appreciating the contribution made by civil society, including non-governmental organizations and the private sector, on issues related to foreign policy and global health,

Welcoming the ongoing partnerships between a variety of stakeholders at the local, national, regional and global levels aimed at addressing the multifaceted determinants of global health and the commitments and initiatives to accelerate progress on the health-related Millennium Development Goals, including those announced at the high-level event on the Millennium Development Goals, held at United Nations Headquarters on 25 September 2008, and at the corresponding follow-up high-level event held on 23 September 2009,

Noting with concern that for millions of people throughout the world, the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, including access to medicines, still remains a distant goal and that, in many cases, especially for those living in poverty, this goal is becoming increasingly remote,

1. *Notes with appreciation* the report of the Secretary-General[248] and the recommendations contained therein;

2. *Recognizes* the close relationship between foreign policy and global health and their interdependence, and in that regard also recognizes that global challenges require concerted and sustained efforts by the international community;

3. *Stresses* the importance of achieving the health-related Millennium Development Goals;

4. *Welcomes* the ministerial declaration adopted during the annual ministerial review held by the Economic and Social Council in 2009 which focused on the theme "Implementing the internationally agreed goals and commitments in regard to global public health",[246] and in that regard calls for enhanced coordination within the United Nations system;

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[244] See World Health Organization, *Sixtieth World Health Assembly, Geneva, 14–23 May 2007, Resolutions and Decisions, Annexes* (WHASS1/2006-WHA60/2007/REC/1).

[245] See World Health Organization, *Sixty-second World Health Assembly, Geneva, 18–22 May 2009, Resolutions and Decisions, Annexes* (WHA62/2009/REC/1).

[246] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/64/3/Rev.1).

[247] A/63/591, annex.

[248] See A/64/365.

I

Control of emerging infectious diseases and foreign policy

5. *Welcomes* the international coordinated actions in response to the recent influenza A (H1N1) pandemic as a good example of synergies between global health and foreign policy;

6. *Emphasizes* the need for further international cooperation to meet emerging, new and unforeseen threats and epidemics, such as the recent influenza A (H1N1) pandemic, and the H5N1 and other influenza viruses with human pandemic potential, and acknowledges the growing health problem of antimicrobial resistance;

7. *Recognizes* the need for a fair, transparent, equitable and efficient framework for the sharing of the H5N1 and other influenza viruses with human pandemic potential, and for the sharing of benefits, including access to and distribution of affordable vaccines, diagnostics and treatments, to those in need, especially in developing countries, in a timely manner;

8. *Acknowledges with serious concern* that current global influenza vaccine production capacity remains insufficient to meet anticipated need in pandemic situations, particularly in developing countries, and that some countries cannot develop, produce, afford or access needed vaccines and other benefits, and acknowledges also in this regard the interlinkage with production capacity of seasonal influenza vaccines and the ability to ensure their effective use;

9. *Calls for* the strengthening of surveillance and response capacity at the national, regional and international levels through the full implementation of the International Health Regulations;[249]

10. *Stresses* the importance of finalizing any remaining elements of the Pandemic Influenza Preparedness Framework for the sharing of influenza viruses and access to vaccines and other benefits;

11. *Acknowledges* that communication with the public must be improved in order to increase awareness of the steps in basic hygiene that citizens can and should take in order to lessen their risk of contracting and transmitting influenza;

II

Human resources for health and foreign policy

12. *Notes with concern* the lack of health workers, as well as their uneven distribution within countries and throughout the world, in particular the shortage in sub-Saharan Africa, which undermines the health systems of developing countries;

13. *Emphasizes* the need for countries to review policies, including recruitment policies and retention policies that exacerbate this problem;

14. *Underlines* the importance of national and international actions, including the development of health workforce plans, which are necessary to increase universal access to health services, including in remote and rural areas, taking into account the challenges facing developing countries in the retention of skilled health personnel, and in this regard encourages the finalization of a World Health Organization code of practice on the international recruitment of health personnel;

15. *Urges* Member States to affirm their commitment to the training of more health workers by promoting training in accredited institutions of a full spectrum of high-quality professionals, as well as community health workers, public health workers and para-professionals, in particular through international cooperation programmes including South-South cooperation, North-South cooperation and triangular cooperation;

III

Follow-up actions

16. *Urges* Member States to consider health issues in the formulation of foreign policy;

17. *Encourages* Member States, the United Nations system, academic institutions and networks to increase their capacity for the training of diplomats and health officials, in particular those from developing countries, on global health and foreign policy, by developing best practices and guidelines for training and open-source information, and educational and training resources for this purpose;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in close collaboration with the Director-General of the World Health Organization, with the participation of relevant programmes, funds and specialized agencies of the United Nations system, and in consultation with Member States, to submit a report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session, under the item entitled "Global health and foreign policy", which, inter alia:

(*a*) Examines ways in which foreign and health policy coordination and coherence can be strengthened at the national, regional and international levels;

(*b*) Identifies institutional linkages;

(*c*) Makes concrete recommendations, with a specific focus on making foreign policy contribute better to creating a global policy environment supportive of global health, as a contribution to the High-level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly to be held in September 2010.

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[249] See World Health Organization, *Fifty-eighth World Health Assembly, Geneva, 16–25 May 2005, Resolutions and Decisions, Annex* (WHA58/2005/REC/1), resolution 58.5.

RESOLUTION 64/109

Adopted at the 63rd plenary meeting, on 11 December 2009, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/64/L.26 and Add.1, sponsored by: Angola, Argentina, Belarus, Botswana, Brazil, China, Congo, Mexico, Namibia, Singapore, Somalia, South Africa, Thailand, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Zimbabwe

64/109. The role of diamonds in fuelling conflict: breaking the link between the illicit transaction of rough diamonds and armed conflict as a contribution to prevention and settlement of conflicts

The General Assembly,

Recognizing that the trade in conflict diamonds continues to be a matter of serious international concern, which can be directly linked to the fuelling of armed conflict, the activities of rebel movements aimed at undermining or overthrowing legitimate Governments and the illicit traffic in and proliferation of armaments, especially small arms and light weapons,

Recognizing also the devastating impact of conflicts fuelled by the trade in conflict diamonds on the peace, safety and security of people in affected countries, and the systematic and gross human rights violations that have been perpetrated in such conflicts,

Noting the negative impact of such conflicts on regional stability and the obligations placed upon States by the Charter of he United Nations regarding the maintenance of international peace and security,

Recognizing that continued action to curb the trade in conflict diamonds is imperative,

Noting with appreciation that the Kimberley Process, as n international initiative of the Governments of participant States, has pursued its deliberations on an inclusive basis nvolving concerned stakeholders, including producing, xporting and importing States, the diamond industry and civil ociety, as well as applicant States and international rganizations,

Recalling that the elimination of conflict diamonds from egitimate trade is the primary objective of the Kimberley rocess,

Calling for the consistent implementation of commitments ade by Kimberley Process participant States,

Acknowledging that the diamond sector is an important atalyst for achieving poverty reduction and meeting the quirements of the Millennium Development Goals in many oducing countries, particularly in developing countries,

Bearing in mind the positive benefits of the legitimate amond trade to producing countries, and underlining the need r continued international action to prevent the problem of nflict diamonds from negatively affecting the trade in gitimate diamonds, which makes a critical contribution to the economies of many of the producing, exporting and importing States, especially developing States,

Noting that the vast majority of rough diamonds produced in the world are from legitimate sources,

Recalling the Charter and all the relevant resolutions of the Security Council related to conflict diamonds, and determined to contribute to and support the implementation of the measures provided for in those resolutions,

Recalling also Security Council resolution 1459 (2003) of 28 January 2003, in which the Council strongly supported the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme[250] as a valuable contribution against trafficking in conflict diamonds,

Welcoming the important contribution of the Kimberley Process, which was initiated by African diamond-producing countries,

Noting with satisfaction that the implementation of the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme continues to have a positive impact in reducing the opportunity for conflict diamonds to play a role in fuelling armed conflict and would help to protect legitimate trade and ensure the effective implementation of the relevant resolutions on trade in conflict diamonds,

Acknowledging that lessons learned from the Kimberley Process are useful for the work of the Peacebuilding Commission in its consideration of the countries included in its agenda, as appropriate,

Recalling its resolutions 55/56 of 1 December 2000, 56/263 of 13 March 2002, 57/302 of 15 April 2003, 58/290 of 14 April 2004, 59/144 of 15 December 2004, 60/182 of 20 December 2005, 61/28 of 4 December 2006, 62/11 of 26 November 2007 and 63/134 of 11 December 2008, in which it called for the development and implementation as well as a periodic review of proposals for a simple, effective and pragmatic international certification scheme for rough diamonds,

Welcoming, in this regard, the implementation of the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme in such a way as not to impede the legitimate trade in diamonds or impose an undue burden on Governments or industry, particularly smaller producers, nor hinder the development of the diamond industry,

Welcoming also the decision of forty-nine Kimberley Process Participants, representing seventy-five countries, including the twenty-seven members of the European Union represented by the European Commission, to address the problem of conflict diamonds by participating in the Process and implementing the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme,

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[250] See A/57/489.

Noting the consensual outcomes of the plenary meeting of the Kimberley Process, held in Swakopmund, Namibia, from 2 to 5 November 2009,

Welcoming the important contribution in fulfilling the purposes of the Kimberley Process that has been made and continues to be made by civil society and the diamond industry, in particular the World Diamond Council which represents all aspects of the diamond industry, to assist international efforts to stop the trade in conflict diamonds,

Welcoming also the voluntary self-regulation initiatives for the diamond industry announced by the World Diamond Council, and recognizing that a system of such voluntary self-regulation contributes, as described in the Interlaken Declaration of 5 November 2002 on the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme for Rough Diamonds,[251] to ensuring the effectiveness of national systems of internal control for rough diamonds,

Recognizing that State sovereignty should be fully respected and that the principles of equality, mutual benefits and consensus should be adhered to,

Recognizing also that the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme, which came into effect on 1 January 2003, will be credible only if all Participants have requisite national legislation coupled with effective and credible internal systems of control designed to eliminate the presence of conflict diamonds in the chain of producing, exporting and importing rough diamonds within their own territories, while taking into account that differences in production methods and trading practices, as well as differences in institutional controls thereof, may require different approaches to meeting minimum standards,

Welcoming the efforts of the Kimberley Process to continue elaborating new rules and procedural norms to regulate the activities of its working bodies, Participants and observers, and to enhance the effectiveness of the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme,

1. *Reaffirms its strong and continuing support* for the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme[250] and the Kimberley Process as a whole;

2. *Recognizes* that the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme can help to ensure the effective implementation of relevant resolutions of the Security Council containing sanctions on the trade in conflict diamonds and act as a mechanism for the prevention of future conflicts, and calls for the full implementation of existing Council measures targeting the illicit trade in rough diamonds, particularly conflict diamonds which play a role in fuelling conflict;

3. *Welcomes* the admission of new Participants to the Kimberley Process;

4. *Recognizes* the important contributions that the international efforts to address the problem of conflict diamonds, including the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme, have made to the settlement of conflicts and the consolidation of peace in Angola, Liberia and Sierra Leone;

5. *Notes* the efforts, including the creation of a team of technical experts, to strengthen import confirmation requirements and examine the compliance of cross-border Internet sales with Kimberley Process Certification Scheme requirements;

6. *Also notes* the decision of the General Council of the World Trade Organization of 15 May 2003 granting a waiver with respect to the measures taken to implement the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme, effective from 1 January 2003 to 31 December 2006,[252] and the decision of the General Council of 17 November 2006 granting an extension of the waiver until 31 December 2012;[253]

7. *Takes note* of the report of the Chair of the Kimberley Process submitted pursuant to General Assembly resolution 63/134,[254] and congratulates the participating Governments, the regional economic integration organization, the diamond industry and civil society organizations involved in the Process for contributing to the development, implementation and monitoring of the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme;

8. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Kimberley Process Participants to fully implement the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme, and stresses the need to implement the minimum requirements and additional recommended measures established by the Kimberley Process and the intention to increase the efficiency of internal controls;

9. *Acknowledges* the progress made by Kimberley Process working groups, Participants and observers during 2009 in fulfilling the objectives set by the Chair to strengthen implementation of the peer review system, increase the transparency and accuracy of statistics, promote research into the traceability of diamonds, promote inclusiveness by broadening the level of involvement by Governments, industry and civil society in the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme, foster a sense of ownership by Participants, improve information and communication flows and enhance the capacity of the Certification Scheme to respond to emerging challenges;

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[251] Ibid., annex 2.

[252] World Trade Organization, document WT/L/518. Available from http://docsonline.wto.org.

[253] World Trade Organization, document G/C/W/559/Rev.1. Available from http://docsonline.wto.org.

[254] A/64/559, annex.

10. *Stresses* that the widest possible participation in the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme is essential, and encourages all Member States to contribute to the work of the Kimberley Process by seeking membership, participating actively in the Certification Scheme and complying with its undertakings, and welcomes the increased involvement of civil society organizations, in particular those from producer countries, in the Process;

11. *Recognizes* the importance of the Kimberley Process continuing to articulate and improve rules and procedures to further enhance the effectiveness of the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme, and notes with satisfaction the systematization of the work of the Process with respect to developing transparent and uniform rules and procedures and improving the mechanism for consultations and coordination within the Process;

12. *Welcomes* the adoption of new guidelines pertaining to implementation and enforcement in order to enhance the capacity of the Kimberley Process and provide guidance to national authorities to address specific enforcement issues such as fraudulent certificates, shipments of suspicious origin and the exchange of information in cases of infringement;

13. *Notes with appreciation* the willingness of the Kimberley Process to support and provide technical assistance to those Participants experiencing temporary difficulties in complying with the requirements of the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme;

14. *Notes* the adoption by the Swakopmund plenary meeting of the decision on the sharing of information on the Kimberley Process with the United Nations and on the participation of observers in the Process;[255]

15. *Welcomes* the establishment of a scientific sub-group on characterization and identification of rough diamonds to improve the current footprinting work that is being done by the Kimberley Process on rough diamonds from Côte d'Ivoire;

16. *Notes with appreciation* the continued cooperation of the Kimberley Process with the United Nations on the issue of diamonds from Côte d'Ivoire and the continued monitoring of the situation in that country on the basis of the reports of the United Nations Group of Experts on Côte d'Ivoire, originally established by the Security Council in its resolution 1584 (2005) of 1 February 2005, and through liaison with Côte d'Ivoire, and encourages continued cooperation between the Process and the United Nations in addressing this issue, with the ultimate objective of meeting the preconditions for the lifting of United Nations sanctions on the trade in rough diamonds from Côte d'Ivoire;

17. *Acknowledges* the adoption by the plenary meeting of the Kimberley Process of a plan to strengthen the internal controls of Guinea and to assess that country's production capacity, welcomes the commitment of Liberia to host a regional meeting to foster further regional cooperation in rough diamond controls, and appreciates the continued efforts of Ghana to strengthen internal controls and prevent the infiltration of illicit Ivorian diamonds into the legitimate trade;

18. *Notes with satisfaction* the development of a new Kimberley Process rough diamond statistics website with enhanced security measures and controls, welcomes the progress made towards the collection and submission of complete and accurate statistical reports on the production of and trade in rough diamonds, and encourages all the Process Participants to continue to enhance the quality of data and respond promptly to the process of analysis of the data;

19. *Also notes with satisfaction* the footprint work conducted by the Kimberley Process Working Group of Diamond Experts with respect to Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Guinea, Liberia, Togo and the Marange diamond fields in Zimbabwe;

20. *Notes with appreciation* the progress achieved under the action plan by the artisanal and alluvial diamond-producing countries and the sharing of information on the impact of the global financial crisis, namely the economic and social consequences and their impact on internal controls;

21. *Calls upon* all Kimberley Process Participants to implement internal controls in diamond trading and manufacturing centres as part of their own internal controls for ensuring adequate Government oversight over the trade in rough diamonds;

22. *Notes with appreciation* the assistance and capacity-building efforts extended by various donors, and encourages other donors to provide financial and technical expertise and organizational support to Kimberley Process Participants, in particular new Participants, to help them to develop tighter monitoring and control measures;

23. *Acknowledges with great appreciation* the important contribution that Namibia, as Chair of the Kimberley Process in 2009, has made to the efforts to curb the trade in conflict diamonds, and takes note that the Process has selected Israel as Chair and the Democratic Republic of the Congo as Vice-Chair of the Process for 2010;

24. *Requests* the Chair of the Kimberley Process to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session a report on the implementation of the Process;

25. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled "The role of diamonds in fuelling conflict".

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[255] Ibid., attachment I.

RESOLUTION 64/125

Adopted at the 64th plenary meeting, on 16 December 2009, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/64/L.35 and Add.1, sponsored by: Albania, Australia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, Congo, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guinea, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mali, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Zambia

64/125. Assistance to the Palestinian people

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 63/140 of 11 December 2008, as well as its previous resolutions on the question,

Recalling also the signing of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements in Washington, D.C., on 13 September 1993, by the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization, the representative of the Palestinian people,[256] and the subsequent implementation agreements concluded by the two sides,

Recalling further all relevant international law, including humanitarian and human rights law, and, in particular, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[257] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[257] the Convention on the Rights of the Child[258] and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[259]

Gravely concerned at the deterioration in the living conditions of the Palestinian people, in particular women and children, throughout the occupied Palestinian territory, which constitutes a mounting humanitarian crisis,

Conscious of the urgent need for improvement in the economic and social infrastructure of the occupied territory,

Welcoming, in this context, the development of projects, notably on infrastructure, to revive the Palestinian economy and improve the living conditions of the Palestinian people, stressing the need to create the appropriate conditions to facilitate the implementation of these projects, and noting the contribution of partners in the region and of the international community,

Aware that development is difficult under occupation and is best promoted in circumstances of peace and stability,

Noting the great economic and social challenges facing the Palestinian people and their leadership,

Emphasizing the importance of the safety and well-being of all people, in particular women and children, in the whole Middle East region,

Deeply concerned about the negative impact, including the health and psychological consequences, of violence on the present and future well-being of children in the region,

Conscious of the urgent necessity for international assistance to the Palestinian people, taking into account the Palestinian priorities,

Expressing grave concern about the humanitarian situation in Gaza, and underlining the importance of emergency and humanitarian assistance,

Welcoming the results of the Conference to Support Middle East Peace, convened in Washington, D.C., on 1 October 1993, the establishment of the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee for the Coordination of the International Assistance to Palestinians and the work being done by the World Bank as its secretariat and the establishment of the Consultative Group, as well as all follow-up meetings and international mechanisms established to provide assistance to the Palestinian people,

Underlining the importance of the International Conference in Support of the Palestinian Economy for the Reconstruction of Gaza, held in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, on 2 March 2009, in addressing the immediate humanitarian situation in Gaza and in mobilizing donors to provide financial and political support for the Palestinian Authority in order to alleviate the socio-economic and humanitarian situation being faced by the Palestinian people,

Recalling the International Donors' Conference for the Palestinian State, held in Paris on 17 December 2007, the Berlin Conference in Support of Palestinian Civil Security and the Rule of Law, held on 24 June 2008, and the Palestine Investment Conference, held in Bethlehem from 21 to 23 May 2008,

Welcoming the meetings of the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee for the Coordination of the International Assistance to Palestinians, held in Oslo on 7 and 8 May 2009 and in New York on 22 September 2009,

Welcoming also the resumption of activities of the Joint Liaison Committee, which provides a forum in which economic policy and practical matters related to donor assistance are discussed with the Palestinian Authority,

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[256] A/48/486-S/26560, annex.

[257] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[258] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[259] Ibid., vol. 1249, No. 20378.

Welcoming further the work of the Palestinian Authority to implement the Palestinian Reform and Development Plan 2008–2010, and stressing the need for continued international support for the Plan,

Stressing the need for the full engagement of the United Nations in the process of building Palestinian institutions and in providing broad assistance to the Palestinian people,

Welcoming recent steps to ease the restrictions on movement and access in the West Bank, while stressing the need for further steps to be taken in this regard, and recognizing that such steps would improve living conditions and the situation on the ground and could promote Palestinian economic development,

Welcoming also the action of the Special Representative of the Quartet, Mr. Tony Blair, charged with developing, with the Government of the Palestinian Authority, a multi-year agenda to strengthen institutions, promote economic development and mobilize international funds,

Stressing the urgency of reaching a durable solution to the crisis in Gaza through the full implementation of Security Council resolution 1860 (2009) of 8 January 2009,

Stressing also the importance of the regular opening of the crossings for the movement of persons and goods, for both humanitarian and commercial flows,

Noting the active participation of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General to the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Palestinian Authority in the activities of the Special Envoys of the Quartet,

Welcoming the endorsement by the Security Council, in resolution 1515 (2003) of 19 November 2003, of the performance-based road map to a permanent two-State solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict,[260] and stressing the need for its implementation and compliance with its provisions,

Noting the Israeli withdrawal from the Gaza Strip in 2005 and from parts of the northern West Bank as a step towards implementation of the road map,

Commending the continuous efforts by the Administration of the United States of America in pursuing vigorously a two-State solution, noting the commitment of the Quartet to remain actively involved, and welcoming steps towards the relaunching of direct, bilateral negotiations as part of a comprehensive resolution of the Arab-Israeli conflict, on the basis of relevant Security Council resolutions and the terms of reference of the Madrid Conference, in order to ensure a political solution, with two States – Israel and an independent, democratic and viable Palestinian State – living side by side in peace and security,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,[261]

Expressing grave concern about the continuation of the tragic and violent events that have led to many deaths and injuries, including among children and women,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[261]

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for his rapid response and efforts regarding assistance to the Palestinian people;

3. *Also expresses its appreciation* to the Member States, United Nations bodies and intergovernmental, regional and non-governmental organizations that have provided and continue to provide assistance to the Palestinian people;

4. *Stresses* the importance of the work of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General to the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Palestinian Authority and of the steps taken under the auspices of the Secretary-General to ensure the achievement of a coordinated mechanism for United Nations activities throughout the occupied territories;

5. *Urges* Member States, international financial institutions of the United Nations system, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and regional and interregional organizations to extend, as rapidly and as generously as possible, economic and social assistance to the Palestinian people, in close cooperation with the Palestine Liberation Organization and through official Palestinian institutions;

6. *Welcomes*, in this regard, the meeting of the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee for the Coordination of the International Assistance to Palestinians and the outcome of the International Conference in Support of the Palestinian Economy for the Reconstruction of Gaza, held in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, on 2 March 2009, at which donors pledged approximately 4.5 billion United States dollars to support the needs of the Palestinian people;

7. *Recalls* the International Donors' Conference for the Palestinian State, held in Paris on 17 December 2007, the Berlin Conference in Support of Palestinian Civil Security and the Rule of Law, held on 24 June 2008, and the Palestine Investment Conference, held in Bethlehem from 21 to 23 May 2008;

8. *Stresses* the importance of following up on the results of the International Conference in Support of the Palestinian Economy for the Reconstruction of Gaza;

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[260] S/2003/529, annex.

[261] A/64/78-E/2009/66.

9. *Calls upon* donors that have not yet converted their budget support pledges into disbursements to transfer funds as soon as possible, encourages all donors to increase their direct assistance to the Palestinian Authority in accordance with its government programme in order to enable it to build a viable and prosperous Palestinian State, underlines the need for equitable burden-sharing by donors in this effort, and encourages donors to consider aligning funding cycles with the Palestinian Authority's national budget cycle;

10. *Calls upon* relevant organizations and agencies of the United Nations system to intensify their assistance in response to the urgent needs of the Palestinian people in accordance with priorities set forth by the Palestinian side;

11. *Expresses its appreciation* for the work of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, and recognizes the vital role of the Agency in providing humanitarian assistance to the Palestinian people, particularly in the Gaza Strip;

12. *Calls upon* the international community to provide urgently needed assistance and services in an effort to alleviate the dire humanitarian situation being faced by Palestinian women, children and their families and to help in the reconstruction of relevant Palestinian institutions;

13. *Stresses* the role that all funding instruments, including the European Commission's Palestinian-European Mechanism for the Management of Socio-Economic Aid and the World Bank trust fund, have been playing in directly assisting the Palestinian people;

14. *Urges* Member States to open their markets to exports of Palestinian products on the most favourable terms, consistent with appropriate trading rules, and to implement fully existing trade and cooperation agreements;

15. *Calls upon* the international donor community to expedite the delivery of pledged assistance to the Palestinian people to meet their urgent needs;

16. *Stresses*, in this context, the importance of ensuring free humanitarian access to the Palestinian people and the free movement of persons and goods;

17. *Also stresses* the need for the full implementation by both parties of the Agreement on Movement and Access and of the Agreed Principles for the Rafah Crossing, of 15 November 2005, to allow for the freedom of movement of the Palestinian civilian population, as well as for imports and exports, within and into and out of the Gaza Strip;

18. *Further stresses* the need to ensure the safety and security of humanitarian personnel, premises, facilities, equipment, vehicles and supplies, as well as the need to ensure safe and unhindered access by humanitarian personnel and delivery of supplies and equipment, in order to allow such personnel to efficiently perform their task of assisting affected civilian populations;

19. *Urges* the international donor community, United Nations agencies and organizations and non-governmental organizations to extend to the Palestinian people, as rapidly as possible, emergency economic assistance and humanitarian assistance, particularly in the Gaza Strip, to counter the impact of the current crisis;

20. *Stresses* the need for the continued implementation of the Paris Protocol on Economic Relations of 29 April 1994, fifth annex to the Israeli-Palestinian Interim Agreement on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, signed in Washington, D.C., on 28 September 1995,[262] including with regard to the full, prompt and regular transfer of Palestinian indirect tax revenues;

21. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session, through the Economic and Social Council, on the implementation of the present resolution, containing:

(*a*) An assessment of the assistance actually received by the Palestinian people;

(*b*) An assessment of the needs still unmet and specific proposals for responding effectively to them;

22. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the sub-item entitled "Assistance to the Palestinian people".

RESOLUTION 64/126

Adopted at the 64th plenary meeting, on 16 December 2009, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Credentials Committee (A/64/571)

64/126. Credentials of representatives to the sixty-fourth session of the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Credentials Committee[263] and the recommendation contained therein,

Approves the report of the Credentials Committee.

RESOLUTION 64/183

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2009, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/64/L.34 and Add.1, sponsored by: China, Dominican Republic, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan

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[262] A/51/889-S/1997/357, annex.

[263] A/64/571.

64/183. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization

The General Assembly,

Recalling that one of the objectives of the United Nations is to achieve cooperation in maintaining international peace and security and solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural or humanitarian character,

Recalling also the Articles of the Charter of the United Nations that encourage activities on the basis of regional cooperation to promote the goals and objectives of the United Nations,

Recalling further its resolution 59/48 of 2 December 2004, by which it granted observer status to the Shanghai Cooperation Organization,

Taking into consideration the fact that countries with economies in transition are among the members of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, and in this regard recalling its resolution 61/210 of 20 December 2006, in which it proposed that the United Nations system enhance dialogue with regional and subregional cooperation organizations whose membership includes countries with economies in transition and increase support provided to them,

Noting with satisfaction that the declaration on the establishment of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization confirms the commitment of its member States to the principles of the Charter,[264]

Noting that the Shanghai Cooperation Organization has become an essential forum for addressing security in the region in all its dimensions,

Convinced that strengthening cooperation between the United Nations and other organizations of the United Nations system and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization helps to promote the goals and objectives of the United Nations,

1. *Takes note* of the activities of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization aimed at strengthening peace, security and stability in the region, countering terrorism, separatism and extremism, drug trafficking and other types of criminal activity of a transnational character and promoting regional cooperation in various areas such as trade and economic development, energy, transportation, agriculture and agro-industry, the regulation of migration, banking and finances, information and telecommunications, science and new technology, customs, education, public health, environmental protection and reducing the danger of natural disasters, as well as in other related areas;

2. *Emphasizes* the importance of strengthening dialogue, cooperation and coordination between the United Nations system and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, and proposes that the Secretary-General, for this purpose, hold regular consultations with the Secretary-General of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization through the existing inter-agency forums and formats, including the annual consultations between the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the heads of regional organizations;

3. *Proposes* that the specialized agencies, organizations, programmes and funds of the United Nations system cooperate with the Shanghai Cooperation Organization with a view to jointly implementing programmes to achieve their goals, and in this regard recommends that the heads of such entities commence consultations with the Secretary-General of the United Nations;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the sub-item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization".

RESOLUTION 64/184

Adopted at the 66th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2009, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/64/L.36, submitted by the President of the General Assembly

64/184. Organization of the High-level Plenary Meeting of the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 55/2 of 8 September 2000 and 60/1 of 16 September 2005, by which it adopted the United Nations Millennium Declaration and the 2005 World Summit Outcome, respectively,

Recalling also its resolution 63/302 of 9 July 2009, by which it decided to convene in 2010, at the commencement of the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly, a high-level plenary meeting of the Assembly,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Scope, modalities, format and organization of the high-level plenary meeting of the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly"[265] requested in resolution 63/302,

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[264] See A/55/1010-S/2001/667, annex I, para. 5.

[265] A/64/263.

Convinced that the High-level Plenary Meeting will be a significant opportunity to galvanize commitment, rally support and spur collective action in order to reach the Millennium Development Goals by 2015,

1. *Decides* that the High-level Plenary Meeting of the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly shall be held from Monday, 20 September 2010, to Wednesday, 22 September 2010, in New York;

2. *Also decides* to hold the general debate at its sixty-fifth session from Thursday, 23 September 2010, on the understanding that these arrangements shall in no way create a precedent for the general debate at future sessions;

3. *Further decides* that the High-level Plenary Meeting shall focus on accelerating progress towards the achievement of all the Millennium Development Goals by 2015, taking into account the progress made with regard to the internationally agreed development goals, through a comprehensive review of successes, best practices and lessons learned, obstacles and gaps, challenges and opportunities, leading to concrete strategies for action, and requests the Secretary-General to submit a comprehensive report in this regard in March 2010;

4. *Decides* that the above-mentioned report, together with the *Millennium Development Goals Report 2009*[266] and the 2009 report of the Millennium Development Goals Gap Task Force,[267] shall serve as an input for the consultations leading to the High-level Plenary Meeting;

5. *Reiterates* that the High-level Plenary Meeting will be held with the participation of Heads of State or Government, and encourages all Member States to be represented at that level;

6. *Decides* that the High-level Plenary Meeting shall be composed of six plenary meetings, on the basis of two meetings a day, and six interactive round-table sessions to be held in concurrence with plenary meetings;

7. *Invites* the President of the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session and the President of the Assembly at its sixty-fifth session to jointly preside over the High-level Plenary Meeting;

8. *Decides* that the Holy See, in its capacity as observer State, and Palestine, in its capacity as observer, shall participate in the High-level Plenary Meeting;

9. *Also decides* that the plenary meetings shall be organized in accordance with the modalities set forth in annex I to the present resolution and that the list of speakers for the plenary meetings shall be established in accordance with the procedure set forth in that annex;

10. *Emphasizes* that the deliberations of the Economic and Social Council, in particular during its 2010 substantive session, including the Development Cooperation Forum and the annual ministerial review, could provide a valuable contribution to the preparations for the High-level Plenary Meeting;

11. *Decides* that the six round-table sessions shall be organized in accordance with the modalities set forth in annex II to the present resolution;

12. *Invites* the United Nations funds and programmes and the specialized agencies of the United Nations system, as well as the Bretton Woods institutions, the World Trade Organization, the regional development banks, the regional commissions of the United Nations, non-governmental organizations and civil society organizations and the private sector, to participate in the High-level Plenary Meeting, including in the round tables and in the preparatory process for the Meeting, according to the modalities specified in the annexes to the present resolution, and encourages them to consider initiatives in support of the preparatory process and the Meeting;

13. *Invites* the regional commissions, with the support of the regional development banks and other relevant entities, to hold regional consultations, as appropriate, during the first half of 2010, which will serve to provide inputs to the preparations for the High-level Plenary Meeting as well as the Meeting itself;

14. *Invites* the Inter-Parliamentary Union, as part of the preparatory process for the third World Conference of Speakers of Parliament, to develop and submit a contribution to the High-level Plenary Meeting;

15. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly to organize, in consultation with representatives of non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, civil society organizations and the private sector, two days of informal interactive hearings no later than June 2010 with non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations and the private sector to provide an input to the preparatory process for the High-level Plenary Meeting;

16. *Decides* that the President of the General Assembly shall preside over the informal interactive hearings with representatives of non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations and the private sector, and that the hearings shall be organized in accordance with the modalities set forth in annex III to the present resolution, and requests the President of the Assembly to prepare a summary of the hearings, to be issued as an Assembly document prior to the High-level Plenary Meeting;

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[266] United Nations publication, Sales No. E.09.I.12.

[267] *Strengthening the Global Partnership for Development in a Time of Crisis* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.09.I.8).

17. *Encourages* Member States to actively participate in the hearings at the ambassadorial level to facilitate interaction between the Member States and the representatives of non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations and the private sector;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to establish a trust fund to enhance the participation in the hearings of representatives of non-governmental organizations and civil society organizations from developing countries, and calls upon Member States and others to support the trust fund generously and speedily;

19. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly to continue to hold open, inclusive, timely and transparent consultations with all Member States, with a view to reaching the broadest possible agreement on all major issues relating to the High-level Plenary Meeting, including the adoption of a concise and action-oriented outcome to be agreed by Member States;

20. *Strongly urges* all Member States to actively engage in the process of formal and informal consultations leading to the High-level Plenary Meeting with a view to reaching a successful outcome of the Meeting.

Annex I

Organization of the plenary meetings and establishment of the list of speakers for the High-level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly

1. The High-level Plenary Meeting will consist of a total of six meetings, on the basis of two meetings a day, as follows:

Monday, 20 September 2010, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Tuesday, 21 September 2010, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Wednesday, 22 September 2010, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

2. The podium in the General Assembly Hall will have three seats to accommodate the two Co-Chairs and the Secretary-General.

3. At the opening plenary meeting, on Monday morning, 20 September 2010, the initial speakers will be the two Co-Chairs, the Secretary-General, the head of the delegation of the host country of the Organization, the President of the Economic and Social Council, the President of the World Bank, the Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund, the Director-General of the World Trade Organization, the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, as the Chair of the United Nations Development Group.

4. The list of speakers for the High-level Plenary Meeting will therefore be established on the basis of six meetings. The morning meeting on Monday, 20 September 2010, following the opening of the Meeting will have 20 speaking slots. The morning meetings on Tuesday, 21 September 2010, and Wednesday, 22 September 2010, will each have 30 speaking slots. The afternoon meetings on Monday, 20 September 2010, and Tuesday, 21 September 2010, will each have 50 speaking slots. The afternoon meeting on Wednesday, 22 September 2010, will have 20 speaking slots, since the last hour will be devoted to the closing of the High-level Plenary Meeting.

5. The list of speakers for the High-level Plenary Meeting will be established initially as follows:

(*a*) The representative of the Secretary-General will draw one name from a first box containing the names of all Member States that will be represented by Heads of State, Heads of Government, vice-presidents, crown princes/princesses, and of the Holy See, in its capacity as observer State, and Palestine, in its capacity as observer, should they be represented by their highest-ranking officials. This procedure will be repeated until all names have been drawn from the box, thus establishing the order in which participants will be invited to choose their meetings and select their speaking slots. The representative of the Secretary-General will then draw from a second box the names of those not contained in the first box in accordance with the same procedure;

(*b*) Six boxes will be prepared, each one representing a meeting and each one containing numbers corresponding to speaking slots at that meeting;

(*c*) Once the name of a Member State, the Holy See, in its capacity as observer State, or Palestine, in its capacity as observer, has been drawn by the representative of the Secretary-General, that Member State, the Holy See, in its capacity as observer State, or Palestine, in its capacity as observer, will be invited first to choose a meeting and then to draw from the appropriate box the number indicating the speaking slot in the meeting.

6. The initial list of speakers for the High-level Plenary Meeting as outlined in paragraph 5 above will be established at a meeting to be scheduled in the month of May 2010.

7. Subsequently, when each category of speakers is organized following the order resulting from the selection process outlined in paragraph 5 above, the list of speakers for each meeting will be rearranged in accordance with the established practice of the General Assembly:

(*a*) Heads of State will thus be accorded first priority, followed by Heads of Government; vice-presidents, crown princes/princesses; the highest-ranking official of the Holy See, in its capacity as observer State, and of Palestine, in its capacity as observer; ministers; and permanent representatives;

(*b*) In the event that the level at which a statement is to be made is subsequently changed, the speaker will be moved to the next available speaking slot in the appropriate category at the same meeting;

(*c*) Participants may arrange to exchange their speaking slots in accordance with the established practice of the General Assembly;

(*d*) Speakers who are not present when their speaking turn comes will be automatically moved to the next available speaking slot within their category.

8. In order to accommodate all speakers at the High-level Plenary Meeting, statements will be limited to five minutes, on the understanding that this will not preclude the distribution of more extensive texts.

9. Without prejudice to other organizations which have observer status in the General Assembly, a representative of each of the following may also be included in the list of speakers for the plenary meetings of the High-level Plenary Meeting:

League of Arab States

African Union

European Union

Organization of the Islamic Conference

World Conference of Speakers of Parliament of the Inter-Parliamentary Union.

10. Other than for Member States, the list of speakers for the plenary meetings of the High-level Plenary Meeting will be closed on Monday, 2 August 2010.

11. The arrangements set out above shall in no way create a precedent.

Annex II

Organization of the interactive round-table sessions for the High-level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly

1. The High-level Plenary Meeting will hold six interactive round-table sessions, as follows:

Monday, 20 September 2010, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Tuesday, 21 September 2010, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Wednesday, 22 September 2010, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.

2. The six round-table sessions will have at least 50 seats each and will be co-chaired by two Heads of State or Government.

3. The Chairs of the six round-table sessions will be from the African States, the Asian States, the Eastern European States, the Latin American and Caribbean States and the Western European and Other States. Those 12 Chairs will be selected by their respective regional groups in consultation with the President of the General Assembly.

4. Following the selection of Chairs of the round-table sessions, the participation of the members of each group will be determined on a first-come, first-served basis, ensuring that equitable geographical distribution is maintained, allowing for some flexibility. Member States are encouraged to be represented at the round tables at the level of Head of State or Government.

5. The six round-table sessions will have the overarching objective of "Making it happen by 2015", and each one will focus on one theme, as follows:

Round table 1 – Addressing the challenge of poverty, hunger and gender equality

Round table 2 – Meeting the goals of health and education

Round table 3 – Promoting sustainable development

Round table 4 – Addressing emerging issues and evolving approaches

Round table 5 – Addressing the special needs of the most vulnerable

Round table 6 – Widening and strengthening partnerships

6. Each Head of State or Government or head of delegation attending the round-table sessions may be accompanied by one adviser.

7. The composition of the six round-table sessions will be subject to the principle of equitable geographical distribution. Thus, for each regional group, the distribution of its members for participation in each round-table session will be as follows:

(*a*) African States: ten Member States;

(*b*) Asian States: ten Member States;

(*c*) Eastern European States: five Member States;

(*d*) Latin American and Caribbean States: seven Member States;

(*e*) Western European and other States: six Member States;

(*f*) Other organizations with observer status in the General Assembly: two representatives, in addition to those mentioned in paragraph 9 of annex I to the present resolution;

(*g*) Entities of the United Nations system: four representatives;

(*h*) Civil society and non-governmental organizations: four representatives;

(*i*) Private sector: four representatives.

8. A Member State that is not a member of any of the regional groups may participate in a round-table session to be determined in consultation with the President of the General Assembly. The Holy See, in its capacity as observer State, and Palestine, in its capacity as observer, as well as the organizations listed in paragraph 9 of annex I to the present resolution, may also participate in different round-table sessions to be determined also in consultation with the President of the Assembly.

9. The list of participants in each round-table session will be made available prior to the meeting.

10. The round-table sessions will be closed to the media and the general public. Accredited delegates and observers will be able to follow the proceedings of the round-table sessions via a closed-circuit television in the overflow room.

11. Summaries of the deliberations of the six round-table sessions will be presented orally by the Chairs of the round-table sessions or their representatives during the concluding plenary meeting of the High-level Plenary Meeting.

Annex III

Organization of the informal interactive hearings

1. The President of the General Assembly will preside over the informal interactive hearings to be held no later than June 2010. The hearings shall consist of a brief opening plenary meeting followed by four sequential sessions of the hearings on the basis of two sessions a day, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., and from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. Each session will consist of presentations by invited participants from non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, civil society organizations and the private sector and an exchange of views with Member States.

2. The hearings will be attended by representatives of non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, civil society organizations, the private sector, Member States and observers.

3. The President of the General Assembly will determine the list of invited participants and the exact format and organization of the hearings, in consultation with Member States and representatives of non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, civil society organizations and the private sector.

4. The themes for the hearings will be based on the comprehensive report of the Secretary-General.

5. The President of the General Assembly will consult with representatives of non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, civil society organizations and the private sector, and with Member States, as appropriate, on the list of representatives of non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations and the private sector that may participate in the plenary meetings of the High-level Plenary Meeting of September 2010.

Annex IV

Other participants

1. On the understanding that the principle of precedence will be strictly applied, to allow participation at the level of Heads of State or Government, the Secretary-General, the head of the delegation of the host country of the Organization, the President of the Economic and Social Council, the President of the World Bank, the Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund, the Director-General of the World Trade Organization, the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, as the Chair of the United Nations Development Group, will be invited to make a statement in the plenary meeting.

2. The President of the General Assembly will consult with representatives of non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, civil society organizations and the private sector, and with Member States, as appropriate, on the list of representatives of non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations and the private sector that may participate in the plenary meetings and the round tables of the High-level Plenary Meeting of September 2010.

3. Representatives of non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, civil society organizations and the private sector, one from each grouping, selected during the informal interactive hearings, may also be included in the list of speakers for the plenary meetings of the High-level Plenary Meeting, in consultation with the President of the General Assembly.

4. In addition, interested non-governmental organizations that are not in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council and private sector representatives may apply to the General Assembly for accreditation following the established accreditation procedure.

5. The arrangements set out above shall in no way create a precedent.

RESOLUTION 64/194

Adopted at the 66th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2009, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/64/L.41, sponsored by Mexico

64/194. Modalities for the fourth High-level Dialogue on Financing for Development

The General Assembly,

Recalling the International Conference on Financing for Development, held in Monterrey, Mexico, from 18 to 22 March 2002, the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus, held in Doha from 29 November to 2 December 2008, and its resolutions 56/210 B of 9 July 2002, 57/250 of 20 December 2002, 57/270 B of 23 June 2003, 57/272 and 57/273 of 20 December 2002, 58/230 of 23 December 2003, 59/225 of 22 December 2004, 60/188 of 22 December 2005, 61/191 of 20 December 2006, 62/187 of 19 December 2007 and 63/239 of 24 December 2008, as well as Economic and Social Council resolutions 2002/34 of 26 July 2002, 2003/47 of 24 July 2003, 2004/64 of 16 September 2004, 2006/45 of 28 July 2006, 2007/30 of 27 July 2007 and 2008/14 of 24 July 2008,

Recalling also its decisions 63/564 of 14 September 2009 and 64/511 of 20 November 2009,

1. *Decides* to hold its fourth High-level Dialogue on Financing for Development on 16 and 17 March 2010 at United Nations Headquarters;

2. *Takes note* of the note by the Secretary-General on the proposed organization of work of the fourth High-level Dialogue;[268]

3. *Decides* that the overall theme of the fourth High-level Dialogue will be "The Monterrey Consensus and Doha Declaration on Financing for Development: status of implementation and tasks ahead";

4. *Stresses* the importance of the full involvement of all relevant stakeholders in the implementation of the Monterrey Consensus[269] at all levels, and also stresses the importance of their full participation in the financing for development follow-up process, in accordance with the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, in particular the accreditation procedures and modalities of participation utilized at the Monterrey and Doha Conferences;

5. *Decides* that the modalities for the fourth High-level Dialogue will be the same as those used for the 2005 and 2007 High-level Dialogues, as described in its resolution 59/293 of 27 May 2005;

6. *Decides also* that the fourth High-level Dialogue will consist of a series of plenary and informal meetings, three interactive multi-stakeholder round tables and an informal interactive dialogue;

7. *Decides further* that the themes of the round tables and of the informal interactive dialogue will be as follows:

(*a*) Round table 1: The reform of the international monetary and financial system and its implications for development;

(*b*) Round table 2: The impact of the current financial and economic crisis on foreign direct investment and other private flows, external debt and international trade;

(*c*) Round table 3: The role of financial and technical development cooperation, including innovative sources of development finance, in leveraging the mobilization of domestic and international financial resources for development;

(*d*) Informal interactive dialogue: The link between financing for development and achieving the Millennium Development Goals: the road to the 2010 high-level event;

8. *Decides* that the fourth High-level Dialogue will result in a summary by the President of the General Assembly that will provide, as appropriate, input on financing for development to the preparatory process of the high-level plenary meeting of the Assembly in September 2010.

RESOLUTION 64/222

Adopted at the 66th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2009, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/64/L.37, submitted by the President of the General Assembly

64/222. Nairobi outcome document of the High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation

The General Assembly,

Taking note of the holding of the High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation in Nairobi, from 1 to 3 December 2009, and the adoption by the Conference of the Nairobi outcome document,

1. *Expresses its deep appreciation* to Kenya for hosting the High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation;

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[268] A/64/377.

[269] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

2. *Decides* to endorse the Nairobi outcome document of the High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation, which is annexed to the present resolution.

Annex

Nairobi outcome document of the High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation

1. We, heads of delegations and high representatives of Governments, gathered in Nairobi, from 1 to 3 December 2009 at the High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation, on the occasion of the thirtieth anniversary of the 1978 United Nations Conference on Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, held in Buenos Aires, which produced the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries.[270]

2. We recognize and contribute to the goal of the Conference to strengthen and further invigorate South-South cooperation.

3. We recall and renew our commitment to the full implementation of the outcomes of all major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields, and all General Assembly resolutions relevant to South-South and triangular cooperation.

4. We note the outcomes of the South Summits of the Group of 77[271] and other relevant South meetings.

5. We recognize the role of the Non-Aligned Movement in promoting South-South cooperation.

6. We take note of relevant processes and dialogues related to enhancing South-South cooperation.

7. Since the Buenos Aires meeting, the increasing economic dynamism of some developing countries in recent years has imparted greater energy to South-South cooperation, including through regional integration initiatives across the developing world, seen in, among other things, the creation of regional common markets, customs unions, cooperation in political fields, institutional and regulatory frameworks, and inter-State transport and communications networks. In this regard, we recognize the solidarity of middle-income countries with other developing countries with a view to supporting their development efforts, including in the context of South-South and triangular cooperation.

8. At the same time, we duly note that many developing countries continue to face serious development challenges and that many of them are not on track to achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals.

9. We stress that South-South cooperation, as an important element of international cooperation for development, offers viable opportunities for developing countries in their individual and collective pursuit of sustained economic growth and sustainable development.

10. We reaffirm the key role of the United Nations, including its funds, programmes, specialized agencies and regional commissions, in supporting and promoting cooperation among developing countries, while reiterating that every country has the primary responsibility for its own development. We reaffirm resolution 33/134 of 19 December 1978, endorsing the Buenos Aires Plan of Action, which constitutes a major milestone in the evolution of South-South and triangular cooperation.

11. We recognize the importance and different history and particularities of South-South cooperation, and we reaffirm our view of South-South cooperation as a manifestation of solidarity among peoples and countries of the South that contributes to their national well-being, their national and collective self-reliance and the attainment of internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals. South-South cooperation and its agenda have to be set by countries of the South and should continue to be guided by the principles of respect for national sovereignty, national ownership and independence, equality, non-conditionality, non-interference in domestic affairs and mutual benefit.

12. We recognize that South-South cooperation takes different and evolving forms, including the sharing of knowledge and experience, training, technology transfer, financial and monetary cooperation and in-kind contributions.

13. We recognize the need to enhance local capacity in developing countries by supporting local capabilities, institutions, expertise and human resources and national systems, where appropriate, in contribution to national development priorities, at the request of developing countries.

14. We stress that South-South cooperation is not a substitute for, but rather a complement to, North-South cooperation.

15. We recognize the value of the increasing support provided by developed countries, international organizations and civil society to developing countries, upon their request, in improving their expertise and national capacities through triangular cooperation mechanisms, including direct support or cost-sharing arrangements, joint research and development projects, third-country training programmes and support for South-South centres, as well as by providing the necessary

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[270] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, Buenos Aires, 30 August–12 September 1978* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.78.II.A.11 and corrigendum), chap. I.

[271] See A/55/74 and A/60/111.

knowledge, experience and resources, so as to assist other developing countries, in accordance with their national development priorities and strategies.

16. We welcome efforts by multilateral, regional and bilateral financial and development institutions to increase financial resources to promote South-South cooperation, where appropriate, including for the least developed countries and countries with economies in transition.

17. We recognize that developing countries tend to share common views on national development strategies and priorities when faced with similar development challenges. The proximity of experience is therefore a key catalyst in promoting capacity development in developing countries and, in this regard, accentuates the principles of South-South cooperation. It is important to enhance South-South cooperation in order to fulfil its full development potential.

18. We reaffirm that South-South cooperation is a common endeavour of peoples and countries of the South, born out of shared experiences and sympathies, based on their common objectives and solidarity, and guided by, inter alia, the principles of respect for national sovereignty and ownership, free from any conditionalities. South-South cooperation should not be seen as official development assistance. It is a partnership among equals based on solidarity. In that regard, we acknowledge the need to enhance the development effectiveness of South-South cooperation by continuing to increase its mutual accountability and transparency, as well as coordinating its initiatives with other development projects and programmes on the ground, in accordance with national development plans and priorities. We also recognize that the impact of South-South cooperation should be assessed with a view to improving, as appropriate, its quality in a results-oriented manner.

19. South-South cooperation embraces a multi-stakeholder approach, including non-governmental organizations, the private sector, civil society, academia and other actors that contribute to meeting development challenges and objectives in line with national development strategies and plans.

20. In order to realize the potential of South-South cooperation in accordance with its principles and to attain the objectives of supporting national and regional development efforts, strengthening institutional and technical capacities, improving the exchange of experience and know-how among developing countries, responding to their specific development challenges and increasing the impact of international cooperation, we:

(*a*) Welcome the achievements made by developing countries towards promoting South-South cooperation initiatives and invite them to continue to intensify their efforts in this regard;

(*b*) Invite developed countries to support South-South cooperation through triangular cooperation, including for capacity development;

(*c*) Encourage developing countries to develop country-led systems to evaluate and assess the quality and impact of South-South and triangular cooperation programmes and improve data collection at the national level to promote cooperation in the development of methodologies and statistics to this end, as appropriate, while bearing in mind the specific principles and unique characteristics of South-South cooperation, and encourage all actors to support initiatives for information and data collection, coordination, dissemination and evaluation of South-South cooperation, upon the request of developing countries;

(*d*) Also encourage developing countries to enhance their national coordination mechanisms, as appropriate, in order to improve South-South and triangular cooperation through the dissemination of results, the sharing of lessons and good practices, and replication, including through the voluntary exchange of experience for the benefit of developing countries, and according to their policies and priorities for development;

(*e*) Recognize that interrelated global crises, in particular the financial and economic crisis, volatile energy prices, the food crisis, poverty and the challenges posed by climate change, as well as other challenges, including communicable and non-communicable diseases, are already reversing the gains achieved in developing countries and hence require action at all levels. In this regard, we invite developed countries and multilateral institutions to enhance their support for South-South cooperation to contribute to addressing these challenges;

(*f*) Emphasize the need to promote, including through South-South cooperation, access to and the transfer of technology. In this regard, we welcome efforts made by developing countries in improving technology cooperation arrangements, such as the Consortium on Science, Technology and Innovation for the South. We also emphasize the need to promote, through South-South cooperation, broader technological developments such as technological management capabilities and information networks that are demand-oriented and involve participation by users of technology or by those involved in the process of technological development and infrastructure and human resources development;

(*g*) Call for the strengthening of various interregional dialogues and the exchange of experience among subregional and regional economic groupings for the purpose of expanding South-South cooperation by integrating the various approaches to economic and technical cooperation among developing countries;

(*h*) Acknowledge the various national, regional and subregional initiatives to enhance South-South cooperation in the social (particularly health and education), economic, environmental, technical and political fields;[272]

(*i*) Recognize regional mechanisms and initiatives for infrastructure cooperation and integration, including in the energy field, based on solidarity and complementarity, to overcome asymmetries with regard to access to energy resources;

(*j*) Recognize that international support for South-South cooperation in trade, investment and other areas can be catalytic in strengthening and consolidating regional and subregional economic integration and take note of the São Paulo round of negotiations relating to the Global System of Trade Preferences among Developing Countries in order to reinvigorate and strengthen the agreement in general, promote greater interregional trade, diversify export markets and enhance investment flows among them.

21. We acknowledge the need to reinvigorate the United Nations development system in supporting and promoting South-South cooperation. To this effect, we:

(*a*) Urge the United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies to take concrete measures to mainstream support for South-South and triangular cooperation to help developing countries, at their request and with their ownership and leadership, to develop capacities to maximize the benefits and impact of South-South and triangular cooperation in order to achieve their national development goals and internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;

(*b*) Call upon the United Nations funds and programmes and invite the specialized agencies to continue to enhance the capacities of developing countries to develop and formulate development cooperation programmes, strengthen the capacities of regional and subregional organizations and conduct research to identify areas where support for South-South cooperation will have the greatest impact;

(*c*) Call upon the United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies to continue to focus and coordinate their operational activities in support of South-South cooperation, in accordance with national development plans and their respective mandates, and to produce practical results, taking into account South-South characteristics and approaches;

(*d*) Call furthermore upon United Nations regional commissions to play a catalytic role in promoting South-South and triangular cooperation and in strengthening their technical, policy and research support for countries of their regions;

(*e*) Welcome the recent initiatives by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and other United Nations specialized agencies to establish, within their respective mandates, new units and work programmes to support and promote South-South cooperation, and request United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies, as well as regional commissions, to help developing countries to establish or strengthen existing South-South centres of excellence, within their respective areas of competence, and to enhance closer cooperation among such centres of excellence, especially at the regional and interregional levels, with a view to improving South-South knowledge-sharing, networking, mutual capacity-building, information and best practices exchanges, policy analysis and coordinated action among developing countries on major issues of common concern;

(*f*) Encourage such institutions and centres of excellence, as well as regional and subregional economic groupings, to establish closer links among themselves, with the support of the Special Unit for South-South Cooperation, including through its Global South-South Development Academy, Global South-South Development Expo and South-South Global Assets and Technology Exchange;

(*g*) Reaffirm the mandate of the Special Unit for South-South Cooperation, hosted by the United Nations Development Programme, as a separate entity and coordinator for promoting and facilitating South-South and triangular cooperation for development on a global and United Nations system-wide basis;

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[272] For example, Cuba's "Operation Miracle" and "Yes, I can do it" initiatives, the programmes of the Egyptian Fund for Technical Cooperation with Africa, the programmes of the Egyptian Fund for Technical Cooperation with the Commonwealth of Independent States, European Islamic Countries and Newly Independent Countries; the Horizontal Cooperation Programme of the International Cooperation Agency of Chile; the Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation Programme; India's Pan-African e-Network Project; the Bank of the South; the Non-Aligned Movement Centre for South-South Technical Cooperation; the Organization for Investment, Economic and Technical Assistance of the Islamic Republic of Iran; the Pakistan Technical Assistance Programme; the Petrocaribe Energy Cooperation Agreement; Proyecto Mesoamérica; the Mexico-Chile Joint Cooperation Fund; the initiative "Oil and Gas Development: Sharing Experiences and Lessons Learned within the Framework of South-South Cooperation"; Qatar's South Fund for Development and Humanitarian Assistance; Brazil's Strategic Programme in the Areas of Agriculture and Food Security with Haiti; The Brazil-International Labour Organization triangular programme to fight child labour; the initiative of the United Arab Emirates in the field of renewable and alternative energy and clean technology; the Uruguayan Fund for International Cooperation; the Mexico-Uruguay Joint Cooperation Fund; Nigeria's South-South Health Care Delivery Programme; the Nigeria Trust Fund; the Nigerian Technical Aid Corps scheme; the New Asian-African Strategic Partnership; the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation; the Africa-India Partnership; the Africa-South America Summit; the New Partnership for Africa's Development; the India, Brazil and South Africa Facility Fund for Poverty and Hunger Alleviation; the Ibero-American Programme for the Strengthening of South-South Horizontal Cooperation; the Argentine Fund for Horizontal Cooperation; the Kenya-Africa-Japan Strengthening of Mathematics and Science in Secondary Education project; the Regional Cooperation Meeting of the Japan International Cooperation Agency and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations; and the Brazil-Japan agricultural development project in Mozambique.

(*h*) Call for the effective implementation of the United Nations Development Programme fourth cooperation framework for South-South cooperation and, in this regard, encourage Member States in a position to do so to support the United Nations Development Programme and the Special Unit for South-South Cooperation in fully implementing this framework;

(*i*) Invite the Secretary-General, in consultation with States Members of the United Nations, to take measures to further strengthen the Special Unit for South-South Cooperation, as reaffirmed by the General Assembly in its resolutions 58/220 of 23 December 2003, 60/212 of 22 December 2005 and 62/209 of 19 December 2007, so as to enable it to carry out its full responsibilities, in particular through the mobilization of resources for the advancement of South-South cooperation, including triangular cooperation;

(*j*) Reaffirm the relevance of the previously established Guidelines for the Review of Policies and Procedures concerning Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries in conducting and managing South-South cooperation. We therefore call for their full implementation and recognize the need for their continued improvement, in particular in strengthening the capacity of the United Nations Development Programme and United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies to promote and support South-South cooperation, as well as to further develop the specific framework of operational guidelines to facilitate the use of technical cooperation among developing countries in their programmes and projects;

(*k*) Emphasize that South-South cooperation needs adequate support from the United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies, including through triangular cooperation, and call upon all relevant United Nations organizations to consider increasing allocations of human, technical and financial resources for South-South cooperation, as appropriate;

(*l*) Recognize the need to mobilize adequate resources for enhancing South-South cooperation and, in this context, invite all countries in a position to do so to contribute in support of such cooperation through, inter alia, the Pérez-Guerrero Trust Fund for Economic and Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries and the United Nations Fund for South-South Cooperation. In this context, we encourage the Special Unit for South-South Cooperation to undertake additional resource mobilization initiatives to attract more financial and in-kind resources, while avoiding the proliferation and fragmentation of financing arrangements. In this regard, we reaffirm that regular resources will continue to fund the activities of the Special Unit, and invite the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme to consider measures to allocate adequate resources for the Special Unit.

22. We convey our appreciation and gratitude to the Republic of Kenya and its people for the excellent organization and hosting of the High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation and the warm hospitality extended to us in the city of Nairobi.

RESOLUTION 64/226

Adopted at the 67th plenary meeting, on 22 December 2009, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/64/L.40 and Add.1, sponsored by: Albania, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Benin (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States), Canada, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Israel, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Portugal, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, United States of America

64/226. Assistance to survivors of the 1994 genocide in Rwanda, particularly orphans, widows and victims of sexual violence

The General Assembly,

Guided by the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[273]

Recalling the findings and recommendations of the independent inquiry commissioned by the Secretary-General, with the approval of the Security Council, into the actions of the United Nations during the 1994 genocide in Rwanda,[274]

Recalling also the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[275] particularly its recognition that all individuals, in particular vulnerable people, are entitled to freedom from fear and freedom from want, with an equal opportunity to enjoy all their rights and fully develop their human potential,

Recalling further its resolution 59/137 of 10 December 2004, in which it requested the Secretary-General to encourage relevant agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system to continue to work with the Government of Rwanda to develop and implement programmes aimed at supporting vulnerable groups that continue to suffer from the effects of the 1994 genocide,

Welcoming the report of the Secretary-General,[276]

Recalling its resolution 60/225 of 23 December 2005, in which it urged Member States to develop educational programmes on the lessons of the genocide in Rwanda, and also requested the Secretary-General to establish a programme of outreach for Rwanda genocide victim remembrance and education, in order to prevent future acts of genocide,

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[273] Resolution 217 A (III).

[274] See S/1999/1257.

[275] See resolution 60/1.

[276] A/64/313.

Recognizing the numerous difficulties faced by survivors of the 1994 genocide in Rwanda, particularly the orphans, widows and victims of sexual violence, who are poorer and more vulnerable as a result of the genocide, especially the many victims of sexual violence who have contracted HIV and have since either died or become seriously ill with AIDS,

Recognizing also Security Council resolution 1503 (2003) of 28 August 2003, in which the Council called upon the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda to take all possible measures to complete all trial activities by the end of 2008 and all of its work in 2010,

Firmly convinced of the necessity of restoring the dignity of the survivors of the 1994 genocide in Rwanda, which would help to promote reconciliation and healing in Rwanda,

Commending the tremendous efforts of the Government and people of Rwanda and civil society organizations, as well as international efforts, to provide support for restoring the dignity of the survivors, including the allocation by the Government of Rwanda of 5 per cent of its national budget every year to support genocide survivors and the Diaspora One Dollar Campaign for Genocide Survivors,

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to encourage the relevant agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system to implement resolution 59/137 expeditiously, inter alia, by providing assistance in the areas of education for orphans, medical care and treatment for victims of sexual violence, including HIV-positive victims, trauma and psychological counselling, and skills training and microcredit programmes aimed at promoting self-sufficiency and alleviating poverty;

2. *Calls upon* Member States and the United Nations system to urgently implement the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General;[276]

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue the activities of the programme of outreach entitled "The Rwanda Genocide and the United Nations" aimed at Rwanda genocide victim remembrance and education, in order to help to prevent future acts of genocide;

4. *Notes* the importance of residual issues, including witness protection and victim support, the archives of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda and judicial issues and capacity-building for the Rwandan judiciary, and underlines the need for increased and sustained attention to these issues;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Government of Rwanda, to encourage the relevant agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system to take appropriate steps to support, in particular, efforts to enhance judicial capacity-building and victim support in Rwanda;

6. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in view of the critical situation of the survivors of the 1994 genocide in Rwanda and the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda completion strategy, to take all necessary and practicable measures for the implementation of the present resolution and to report thereon to the General Assembly, at its sixty-sixth session, with concrete recommendations on support for survivors of the Rwandan genocide of 1994;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-sixth session the item entitled "Assistance to survivors of the 1994 genocide in Rwanda, particularly orphans, widows and victims of sexual violence".

RESOLUTION 64/235

Adopted at the 68th plenary meeting, on 24 December 2009, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/64/L.27 and Add.1, sponsored by: Albania, Algeria, Argentina, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Egypt, Finland, France, Gabon, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Kenya, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritius, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Slovenia, Somalia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania

64/235. Institutionalization of the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force

The General Assembly,

Recalling the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, contained in its resolution 60/288 of 8 September 2006, and the first review of the Strategy, contained in its resolution 62/272 of 5 September 2008,

Requests the Secretary-General to provide the resources necessary to finalize the institutionalization of the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force without delay in order to ensure overall coordination and coherence in the counter-terrorism efforts of the United Nations system.

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RESOLUTION 64/22

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 2 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/381, para. 8)[1]

64/22. Objective information on military matters, including transparency of military expenditures

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 53/72 of 4 December 1998, 54/43 of 1 December 1999, 56/14 of 29 November 2001, 58/28 of 8 December 2003, 60/44 of 8 December 2005 and 62/13 of 5 December 2007 on objective information on military matters, including transparency of military expenditures,

Recalling also its resolution 35/142 B of 12 December 1980, which introduced the United Nations system for the standardized reporting of military expenditures, its resolutions 48/62 of 16 December 1993, 49/66 of 15 December 1994, 51/38 of 10 December 1996 and 52/32 of 9 December 1997, calling upon all Member States to participate in it, and its resolution 47/54 B of 9 December 1992, endorsing the guidelines and recommendations for objective information on military matters and inviting Member States to provide the Secretary-General with relevant information regarding their implementation,

Noting that, since then, national reports on military expenditures and on the guidelines and recommendations for objective information on military matters have been submitted by a number of Member States belonging to different geographical regions,

Convinced that the improvement of international relations forms a sound basis for promoting further openness and transparency in all military matters,

Convinced also that transparency in military matters is an essential element for building a climate of trust and confidence between States worldwide and that a better flow of objective information on military matters can help to relieve international tension and is therefore an important contribution to conflict prevention,

Noting the role of the standardized reporting system, as instituted through its resolution 35/142 B, as an important instrument to enhance transparency in military matters,

Conscious that the value of the standardized reporting system would be enhanced by a broader participation of Member States,

Noting that the continuing operation of the standardized reporting system should be reviewed with a view to improving its further development and to broadening participation in it,

Welcoming, therefore, the report of the Secretary-General[2] on ways and means to implement the guidelines and recommendations for objective information on military matters, including, in particular, how to strengthen and broaden participation in the standardized reporting system,

Recalling that the guidelines and recommendations for objective information on military matters recommended certain areas for further consideration, such as the improvement of the standardized reporting system,

Noting the efforts of several regional organizations to promote transparency of military expenditures, including standardized annual exchanges of relevant information among their member States,

Recalling the establishment of a group of governmental experts, on the basis of equitable geographical representation, to review the operation and further development of the Standardized Instrument for Reporting Military Expenditures, commencing in 2010, taking into account the views expressed by Member States on the subject and the reports of the Secretary-General on objective information on military matters, including transparency of military expenditures,[3]

Emphasizing the continuing importance of the Standardized Instrument under the current political and economic circumstances,

1. *Calls upon* Member States to report annually to the Secretary-General, by 30 April, their military expenditures for the latest fiscal year for which data are available, using, preferably and to the extent possible, the reporting instrument[4] as recommended in its resolution 35/142 B or, as appropriate, any other format developed in conjunction with similar reporting on military expenditures to other international or regional organizations, and, in the same context, encourages Member States to submit nil returns, if appropriate;

2. *Recommends* the guidelines and recommendations for objective information on military matters to all Member

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[1] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Comoros, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay and Zambia.

[2] A/54/298.

[3] See resolution 62/13, para. 5.

[4] Available from www.un.org/disarmament/convarms/Milex/html/MilexIndex.shtml.

States for implementation, fully taking into account specific political, military and other conditions prevailing in a region, on the basis of initiatives and with the agreement of the States of the region concerned;

3. *Encourages* relevant international bodies and regional organizations to promote transparency of military expenditures and to enhance complementarities among reporting systems, taking into account the particular characteristics of each region, and to consider the possibility of an exchange of information with the United Nations;

4. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General;[5]

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General, within available resources:

(*a*) To continue the practice of sending an annual note verbale to Member States requesting the submission of data to the United Nations system for the standardized reporting of military expenditures, together with the reporting format and related instructions, and to publish in a timely fashion in appropriate United Nations media the due date for transmitting data on military expenditures;

(*b*) To circulate annually the reports on military expenditures as received from Member States, taking into account in his 2010 report the information received from Member States in accordance with paragraph 6 (*b*) below;

(*c*) To transmit the report of the group of governmental experts to the General Assembly for consideration at its sixty-sixth session;

(*d*) To continue consultations with relevant international bodies, with a view to ascertaining requirements for adjusting the present instrument, with a view to encouraging wider participation, and to make recommendations, based on the outcome of those consultations and taking into account the views of Member States, on necessary changes to the content and structure of the standardized reporting system;

(*e*) To encourage relevant international bodies and organizations to promote transparency of military expenditures and to consult with those bodies and organizations with emphasis on examining possibilities for enhancing complementarities among international and regional reporting systems and for exchanging related information between those bodies and the United Nations;

(*f*) To encourage the United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament in Africa, in Asia and the Pacific, and in Latin America and the Caribbean to assist Member States in their regions in enhancing their knowledge of the standardized reporting system;

(*g*) To promote international and regional/subregional symposiums and training seminars to explain the purpose of the standardized reporting system and to give relevant technical instructions;

(*h*) To report on experiences gained during such symposiums and training seminars;

6. *Encourages* Member States:

(*a*) To inform the Secretary-General about possible problems with the standardized reporting system and their reasons for not submitting the requested data;

(*b*) To continue to provide the Secretary-General with their views and suggestions on ways and means to improve the future functioning of and broaden participation in the standardized reporting system, including necessary changes to its content and structure, which could be taken into account by the group of governmental experts during its mandated activity;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-sixth session the item entitled "Objective information on military matters, including transparency of military expenditures".

RESOLUTION 64/23

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 2 December 2009, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/382, para. 7),[6] by a recorded vote of 128 to 3, with 45 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Fiji, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka,

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[5] A/58/202 and Add.1–3, A/59/192 and Add.1, A/60/159 and Add.1–3, A/61/133 and Add.1–3, A/62/158 and Add.1 and 2, A/63/97 and Add.1 and 2 and A/64/113 and Add.1.

[6] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Indonesia (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries).

Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: France, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Albania, Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine

64/23. Implementation of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace, contained in its resolution 2832 (XXVI) of 16 December 1971, and recalling also its resolutions 54/47 of 1 December 1999, 56/16 of 29 November 2001, 58/29 of 8 December 2003, 60/48 of 8 December 2005 and 62/14 of 5 December 2007 and other relevant resolutions,

Recalling also the report of the Meeting of the Littoral and Hinterland States of the Indian Ocean held in July 1979,[7]

Recalling further paragraph 102 of the Final Document of the Thirteenth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Kuala Lumpur on 24 and 25 February 2003,[8] in which it was noted, inter alia, that the Chair of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Indian Ocean would continue his informal consultations on the future work of the Committee,

Emphasizing the need to foster consensual approaches that are conducive to the pursuit of such endeavours,

Noting the initiatives taken by countries of the region to promote cooperation, in particular economic cooperation, in the Indian Ocean area and the possible contribution of such initiatives to overall objectives of a zone of peace,

Convinced that the participation of all permanent members of the Security Council and the major maritime users of the Indian Ocean in the work of the Ad Hoc Committee is important and would assist the progress of a mutually beneficial dialogue to develop conditions of peace, security and stability in the Indian Ocean region,

Considering that greater efforts and more time are required to develop a focused discussion on practical measures to ensure conditions of peace, security and stability in the Indian Ocean region,

Having considered the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Indian Ocean,[9]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Indian Ocean;[9]

2. *Reiterates its conviction* that the participation of all permanent members of the Security Council and the major maritime users of the Indian Ocean in the work of the Ad Hoc Committee is important and would greatly facilitate the development of a mutually beneficial dialogue to advance peace, security and stability in the Indian Ocean region;

3. *Requests* the Chair of the Ad Hoc Committee to continue his informal consultations with the members of the Committee and to report through the Committee to the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to render, within existing resources, all necessary assistance to the Ad Hoc Committee, including the provision of summary records;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-sixth session the item entitled "Implementation of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace".

RESOLUTION 64/24

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 2 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/383, para. 7)[10]

64/24. African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 51/53 of 10 December 1996 and 56/17 of 29 November 2001 and all its other relevant resolutions, as well as those of the Organization of African Unity,

Recalling also the signing of the African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty (Treaty of Pelindaba)[11] in Cairo on 11 April 1996,

Recalling further the Cairo Declaration adopted on that occasion,[12] which emphasized that nuclear-weapon-free zones, especially in regions of tension, such as the Middle East, enhance global and regional peace and security,

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[7] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 45* and corrigendum (A/34/45 and Corr.1).

[8] See A/57/759-S/2003/332, annex I.

[9] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 29* (A/64/29).

[10] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Nigeria (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States).

[11] See A/50/426, annex.

[12] A/51/113-S/1996/276, annex.

Taking note of the statement made by the President of the Security Council on behalf of the members of the Council on 12 April 1996,[13] affirming that the signature of the African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty constituted an important contribution by the African countries to the maintenance of international peace and security,

Considering that the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones, especially in the Middle East, would enhance the security of Africa and the viability of the African nuclear-weapon-free zone,

1. *Notes with satisfaction* the entry into force of the African Nuclear-Weapon-Free-Zone Treaty (Treaty of Pelindaba)[11] on 15 July 2009;

2. *Calls upon* African States that have not yet done so to sign and ratify the Treaty as soon as possible;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* to the nuclear-weapon States that have signed the Protocols to the Treaty[11] that concern them, and calls upon those that have not yet ratified the Protocols concerning them to do so as soon as possible;

4. *Calls upon* the States contemplated in Protocol III to the Treaty that have not yet done so to take all necessary measures to ensure the speedy application of the Treaty to territories for which they are, de jure or de facto, internationally responsible and that lie within the limits of the geographical zone established in the Treaty;

5. *Calls upon* the African States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[14] that have not yet done so to conclude comprehensive safeguards agreements with the International Atomic Energy Agency pursuant to the Treaty, thereby satisfying the requirements of article 9 (*b*) of and annex II to the Treaty of Pelindaba, and to conclude additional protocols to their safeguards agreements on the basis of the Model Protocol approved by the Board of Governors of the Agency on 15 May 1997;[15]

6. *Expresses its gratitude* to the Secretary-General, the Chairperson of the African Union Commission and the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency for the diligence with which they have rendered effective assistance to the signatories to the Treaty;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled "African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty".

RESOLUTION 64/25

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 2 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/386, para. 7)[16]

64/25. Developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 53/70 of 4 December 1998, 54/49 of 1 December 1999, 55/28 of 20 November 2000, 56/19 of 29 November 2001, 57/53 of 22 November 2002, 58/32 of 8 December 2003, 59/61 of 3 December 2004, 60/45 of 8 December 2005, 61/54 of 6 December 2006, 62/17 of 5 December 2007 and 63/37 of 2 December 2008,

Recalling also its resolutions on the role of science and technology in the context of international security, in which, inter alia, it recognized that scientific and technological developments could have both civilian and military applications and that progress in science and technology for civilian applications needed to be maintained and encouraged,

Noting that considerable progress has been achieved in developing and applying the latest information technologies and means of telecommunication,

Affirming that it sees in this process the broadest positive opportunities for the further development of civilization, the expansion of opportunities for cooperation for the common good of all States, the enhancement of the creative potential of humankind and additional improvements in the circulation of information in the global community,

Recalling, in this connection, the approaches and principles outlined at the Information Society and Development Conference, held in Midrand, South Africa, from 13 to 15 May 1996,

Bearing in mind the results of the Ministerial Conference on Terrorism, held in Paris on 30 July 1996, and the recommendations that it made,[17]

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[13] S/PRST/1996/17; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1996*.

[14] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

[15] Model Protocol Additional to the Agreement(s) between State(s) and the International Atomic Energy Agency for the Application of Safeguards (International Atomic Energy Agency, INFCIRC/540 (Corrected)).

[16] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Chile, China, Cuba, Ethiopia, Haiti, India, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Madagascar, Mali, Myanmar, Nicaragua, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Serbia, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam and Zimbabwe.

[17] See A/51/261, annex.

Bearing in mind also the results of the World Summit on the Information Society, held in Geneva from 10 to 12 December 2003 (first phase) and in Tunis from 16 to 18 November 2005 (second phase),[18]

Noting that the dissemination and use of information technologies and means affect the interests of the entire international community and that optimum effectiveness is enhanced by broad international cooperation,

Expressing its concern that these technologies and means can potentially be used for purposes that are inconsistent with the objectives of maintaining international stability and security and may adversely affect the integrity of the infrastructure of States to the detriment of their security in both civil and military fields,

Considering that it is necessary to prevent the use of information resources or technologies for criminal or terrorist purposes,

Noting the contribution of those Member States that have submitted their assessments on issues of information security to the Secretary-General pursuant to paragraphs 1 to 3 of resolutions 53/70, 54/49, 55/28, 56/19, 57/53, 58/32, 59/61, 60/45, 61/54, 62/17 and 63/37,

Taking note of the reports of the Secretary-General containing those assessments,[19]

Welcoming the initiative taken by the Secretariat and the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research in convening international meetings of experts in Geneva in August 1999 and April 2008 on developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security, as well as the results of those meetings,

Considering that the assessments of the Member States contained in the reports of the Secretary-General and the international meetings of experts have contributed to a better understanding of the substance of issues of international information security and related notions,

Bearing in mind that the Secretary-General, in fulfilment of resolution 58/32, established in 2004 a group of governmental experts, which, in accordance with its mandate, considered existing and potential threats in the sphere of information security and possible cooperative measures to address them and conducted a study on relevant international concepts aimed at strengthening the security of global information and telecommunications systems,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the Group of Governmental Experts on Developments in the Field of Information and Telecommunications in the Context of International Security, prepared on the basis of the results of the Group's work,[20]

1. *Calls upon* Member States to promote further at multilateral levels the consideration of existing and potential threats in the field of information security, as well as possible measures to limit the threats emerging in this field, consistent with the need to preserve the free flow of information;

2. *Considers* that the purpose of such measures could be served through the examination of relevant international concepts aimed at strengthening the security of global information and telecommunications systems;

3. *Invites* all Member States to continue to inform the Secretary-General of their views and assessments on the following questions:

(*a*) General appreciation of the issues of information security;

(*b*) Efforts taken at the national level to strengthen information security and promote international cooperation in this field;

(*c*) The content of the concepts mentioned in paragraph 2 above;

(*d*) Possible measures that could be taken by the international community to strengthen information security at the global level;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General, with the assistance of the group of governmental experts, established in 2009 on the basis of equitable geographical distribution pursuant to General Assembly resolution 63/37, to continue to study existing and potential threats in the sphere of information security and possible cooperative measures to address them, as well as the concepts referred to in paragraph 2 above, and to submit a report on the results of this study to the Assembly at its sixty-fifth session;

5. *Notes with satisfaction* the holding, in Geneva in November 2009, of the first session of the group of governmental experts established by the Secretary-General and the intention of the group to convene three more sessions in 2010 in order to fulfil its mandate as specified in resolution 63/37;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled "Developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security".

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[18] See A/C.2/59/3 and A/60/687.

[19] A/54/213, A/55/140 and Corr.1 and Add.1, A/56/164 and Add.1, A/57/166 and Add.1, A/58/373, A/59/116 and Add.1, A/60/95 and Add.1, A/61/161 and Add.1, A/62/98 and Add.1 and A/64/129 and Add.1.

[20] A/60/202.

RESOLUTION 64/26

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 2 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/387, para. 7)[21]

64/26. Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 3263 (XXIX) of 9 December 1974, 3474 (XXX) of 11 December 1975, 31/71 of 10 December 1976, 32/82 of 12 December 1977, 33/64 of 14 December 1978, 34/77 of 11 December 1979, 35/147 of 12 December 1980, 36/87 A and B of 9 December 1981, 37/75 of 9 December 1982, 38/64 of 15 December 1983, 39/54 of 12 December 1984, 40/82 of 12 December 1985, 41/48 of 3 December 1986, 42/28 of 30 November 1987, 43/65 of 7 December 1988, 44/108 of 15 December 1989, 45/52 of 4 December 1990, 46/30 of 6 December 1991, 47/48 of 9 December 1992, 48/71 of 16 December 1993, 49/71 of 15 December 1994, 50/66 of 12 December 1995, 51/41 of 10 December 1996, 52/34 of 9 December 1997, 53/74 of 4 December 1998, 54/51 of 1 December 1999, 55/30 of 20 November 2000, 56/21 of 29 November 2001, 57/55 of 22 November 2002, 58/34 of 8 December 2003, 59/63 of 3 December 2004, 60/52 of 8 December 2005, 61/56 of 6 December 2006, 62/18 of 5 December 2007 and 63/38 of 2 December 2008 on the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East,

Recalling also the recommendations for the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East consistent with paragraphs 60 to 63, and in particular paragraph 63 (*d*), of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[22]

Emphasizing the basic provisions of the above-mentioned resolutions, which call upon all parties directly concerned to consider taking the practical and urgent steps required for the implementation of the proposal to establish a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East and, pending and during the establishment of such a zone, to declare solemnly that they will refrain, on a reciprocal basis, from producing, acquiring or in any other way possessing nuclear weapons and nuclear explosive devices and from permitting the stationing of nuclear weapons on their territory by any third party, to agree to place their nuclear facilities under International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards and to declare their support for the establishment of the zone and to deposit such declarations with the Security Council for consideration, as appropriate,

Reaffirming the inalienable right of all States to acquire and develop nuclear energy for peaceful purposes,

Emphasizing the need for appropriate measures on the question of the prohibition of military attacks on nuclear facilities,

Bearing in mind the consensus reached by the General Assembly since its thirty-fifth session that the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East would greatly enhance international peace and security,

Desirous of building on that consensus so that substantial progress can be made towards establishing a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East,

Welcoming all initiatives leading to general and complete disarmament, including in the region of the Middle East, and in particular on the establishment therein of a zone free of weapons of mass destruction, including nuclear weapons,

Noting the peace negotiations in the Middle East, which should be of a comprehensive nature and represent an appropriate framework for the peaceful settlement of contentious issues in the region,

Recognizing the importance of credible regional security, including the establishment of a mutually verifiable nuclear-weapon-free zone,

Emphasizing the essential role of the United Nations in the establishment of a mutually verifiable nuclear-weapon-free zone,

Having examined the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution 63/38,[23]

1. *Urges* all parties directly concerned seriously to consider taking the practical and urgent steps required for the implementation of the proposal to establish a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and, as a means of promoting this objective, invites the countries concerned to adhere to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons;[24]

2. *Calls upon* all countries of the region that have not yet done so, pending the establishment of the zone, to agree to place all their nuclear activities under International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards;

3. *Takes note* of resolution GC(53)/RES/16, adopted on 17 September 2009 by the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency at its fifty-third regular

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[21] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Egypt.

[22] Resolution S-10/2.

[23] A/64/124 (Part I) and Add.1.

[24] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

session, concerning the application of Agency safeguards in the Middle East;[25]

4. *Notes* the importance of the ongoing bilateral Middle East peace negotiations and the activities of the multilateral Working Group on Arms Control and Regional Security in promoting mutual confidence and security in the Middle East, including the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone;

5. *Invites* all countries of the region, pending the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East, to declare their support for establishing such a zone, consistent with paragraph 63 (*d*) of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[22] and to deposit those declarations with the Security Council;

6. *Also invites* those countries, pending the establishment of the zone, not to develop, produce, test or otherwise acquire nuclear weapons or permit the stationing on their territories, or territories under their control, of nuclear weapons or nuclear explosive devices;

7. *Invites* the nuclear-weapon States and all other States to render their assistance in the establishment of the zone and at the same time to refrain from any action that runs counter to both the letter and the spirit of the present resolution;

8. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[23]

9. *Invites* all parties to consider the appropriate means that may contribute towards the goal of general and complete disarmament and the establishment of a zone free of weapons of mass destruction in the region of the Middle East;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to pursue consultations with the States of the region and other concerned States, in accordance with paragraph 7 of resolution 46/30 and taking into account the evolving situation in the region, and to seek from those States their views on the measures outlined in chapters III and IV of the study annexed to the report of the Secretary-General of 10 October 1990[26] or other relevant measures, in order to move towards the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East;

11. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

12. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled "Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East".

RESOLUTION 64/27

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 2 December 2009, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/388, para. 7)[27] and as orally revised, by a recorded vote of 118 to none, with 58 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Fiji, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: None

Abstaining: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

64/27. Conclusion of effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind the need to allay the legitimate concern of the States of the world with regard to ensuring lasting security for their peoples,

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[25] See International Atomic Energy Agency, *Resolutions and Other Decisions of the General Conference, Fifty-third Regular Session, 14–18 September 2009* (GC(53)/RES/DEC(2009)).

[26] A/45/435.

[27] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Bangladesh, Benin, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Colombia, Cuba, Egypt, El Salvador, Fiji, Ghana, Haiti, Honduras, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Kuwait, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malawi, Malaysia, Myanmar, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka, Syrian Arab Republic, Uzbekistan and Viet Nam.

Convinced that nuclear weapons pose the greatest threat to mankind and to the survival of civilization,

Noting that the renewed interest in nuclear disarmament should be translated into concrete actions for the achievement of general and complete disarmament under effective international control,

Convinced that nuclear disarmament and the complete elimination of nuclear weapons are essential to remove the danger of nuclear war,

Determined to abide strictly by the relevant provisions of the Charter of the United Nations on the non-use of force or threat of force,

Recognizing that the independence, territorial integrity and sovereignty of non-nuclear-weapon States need to be safeguarded against the use or threat of use of force, including the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

Considering that, until nuclear disarmament is achieved on a universal basis, it is imperative for the international community to develop effective measures and arrangements to ensure the security of non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons from any quarter,

Recognizing that effective measures and arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons can contribute positively to the prevention of the spread of nuclear weapons,

Bearing in mind paragraph 59 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, the first special session devoted to disarmament,[28] in which it urged the nuclear-weapon States to pursue efforts to conclude, as appropriate, effective arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, and desirous of promoting the implementation of the relevant provisions of the Final Document,

Recalling the relevant parts of the special report of the Committee on Disarmament[29] submitted to the General Assembly at its twelfth special session, the second special session devoted to disarmament,[30] and of the special report of the Conference on Disarmament submitted to the Assembly at its fifteenth special session, the third special session devoted to disarmament,[31] as well as the report of the Conference on its 1992 session,[32]

Recalling also paragraph 12 of the Declaration of the 1980s as the Second Disarmament Decade, contained in the annex to its resolution 35/46 of 3 December 1980, which states, inter alia, that all efforts should be exerted by the Committee on Disarmament urgently to negotiate with a view to reaching agreement on effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

Noting the in-depth negotiations undertaken in the Conference on Disarmament and its Ad Hoc Committee on Effective International Arrangements to Assure Non-Nuclear-Weapon States against the Use or Threat of Use of Nuclear Weapons,[33] with a view to reaching agreement on this question,

Taking note of the proposals submitted under the item in the Conference on Disarmament, including the drafts of an international convention,

Taking note also of the relevant decision of the Thirteenth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Kuala Lumpur on 24 and 25 February 2003,[34] which was reiterated at the Fourteenth and Fifteenth Conferences of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Havana and Sharm el-Sheik, Egypt, on 15 and 16 September 2006,[35] and 15 and 16 July 2009,[36] respectively, as well as the relevant recommendations of the Organization of the Islamic Conference,

Taking note further of the unilateral declarations made by all the nuclear-weapon States on their policies of non-use or non-threat of use of nuclear weapons against the non-nuclear-weapon States,

Noting the support expressed in the Conference on Disarmament and in the General Assembly for the elaboration of an international convention to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, as well as the difficulties pointed out in evolving a common approach acceptable to all,

Taking note of Security Council resolution 984 (1995) of 11 April 1995 and the views expressed on it,

Recalling its relevant resolutions adopted in previous years, in particular resolutions 45/54 of 4 December 1990, 46/32 of 6 December 1991, 47/50 of 9 December 1992, 48/73 of 16 December 1993, 49/73 of 15 December 1994, 50/68 of 12 December 1995, 51/43 of 10 December 1996, 52/36 of 9 December 1997, 53/75 of 4 December 1998, 54/52 of 1 December 1999, 55/31 of 20 November 2000, 56/22 of 29 November 2001, 57/56 of 22 November 2002, 58/35 of

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[28] Resolution S-10/2.

[29] The Committee on Disarmament was redesignated the Conference on Disarmament as from 7 February 1984.

[30] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twelfth Special Session, Supplement No. 2* (A/S-12/2), sect. III.C.

[31] Ibid., *Fifteenth Special Session, Supplement No. 2* (A/S-15/2), sect. III.F.

[32] Ibid., *Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/47/27), sect. III.F.

[33] Ibid., *Forty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/48/27), para. 39.

[34] See A/57/759-S/2003/332, annex I.

[35] See A/61/472-S/2006/780, annex I.

[36] See S/2009/459, annex, para. 118.

8 December 2003, 59/64 of 3 December 2004, 60/53 of 8 December 2005, 61/57 of 6 December 2006, 62/19 of 5 December 2007 and 63/39 of 2 December 2008,

1. *Reaffirms* the urgent need to reach an early agreement on effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons;

2. *Notes with satisfaction* that in the Conference on Disarmament there is no objection, in principle, to the idea of an international convention to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, although the difficulties with regard to evolving a common approach acceptable to all have also been pointed out;

3. *Appeals* to all States, especially the nuclear-weapon States, to work actively towards an early agreement on a common approach and, in particular, on a common formula that could be included in an international instrument of a legally binding character;

4. *Recommends* that further intensive efforts be devoted to the search for such a common approach or common formula and that the various alternative approaches, including, in particular, those considered in the Conference on Disarmament, be explored further in order to overcome the difficulties;

5. *Also recommends* that the Conference on Disarmament actively continue intensive negotiations with a view to reaching early agreement and concluding effective international agreements to assure the non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, taking into account the widespread support for the conclusion of an international convention and giving consideration to any other proposals designed to secure the same objective;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled "Conclusion of effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons".

RESOLUTION 64/28

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 2 December 2009, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/389, para. 7),[37] by a recorded vote of 176 to none, with 2 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: None

Abstaining: Israel, United States of America

64/28. Prevention of an arms race in outer space

The General Assembly,

Recognizing the common interest of all mankind in the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes,

Reaffirming the will of all States that the exploration and use of outer space, including the Moon and other celestial bodies, shall be for peaceful purposes and shall be carried out for the benefit and in the interest of all countries, irrespective of their degree of economic or scientific development,

Reaffirming also the provisions of articles III and IV of the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies,[38]

Recalling the obligation of all States to observe the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations regarding the use or threat of use of force in their international relations, including in their space activities,

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[37] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Armenia, Belarus, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Burkina Faso, China, Comoros, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Fiji, Guatemala, Honduras, India, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Russian Federation, Sri Lanka, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, Uruguay, Uzbekistan and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

[38] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 610, No. 8843.

Reaffirming paragraph 80 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[39] in which it is stated that in order to prevent an arms race in outer space, further measures should be taken and appropriate international negotiations held in accordance with the spirit of the Treaty,

Recalling its previous resolutions on this issue, and taking note of the proposals submitted to the General Assembly at its tenth special session and at its regular sessions, and of the recommendations made to the competent organs of the United Nations and to the Conference on Disarmament,

Recognizing that prevention of an arms race in outer space would avert a grave danger for international peace and security,

Emphasizing the paramount importance of strict compliance with existing arms limitation and disarmament agreements relevant to outer space, including bilateral agreements, and with the existing legal regime concerning the use of outer space,

Considering that wide participation in the legal regime applicable to outer space could contribute to enhancing its effectiveness,

Noting that the Ad Hoc Committee on the Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space, taking into account its previous efforts since its establishment in 1985 and seeking to enhance its functioning in qualitative terms, continued the examination and identification of various issues, existing agreements and existing proposals, as well as future initiatives relevant to the prevention of an arms race in outer space,[40] and that this contributed to a better understanding of a number of problems and to a clearer perception of the various positions,

Noting also that there were no objections in principle in the Conference on Disarmament to the re-establishment of the Ad Hoc Committee, subject to re-examination of the mandate contained in the decision of the Conference on Disarmament of 13 February 1992,[41]

Emphasizing the mutually complementary nature of bilateral and multilateral efforts for the prevention of an arms race in outer space, and hoping that concrete results will emerge from those efforts as soon as possible,

Convinced that further measures should be examined in the search for effective and verifiable bilateral and multilateral agreements in order to prevent an arms race in outer space, including the weaponization of outer space,

Stressing that the growing use of outer space increases the need for greater transparency and better information on the part of the international community,

Recalling, in this context, its previous resolutions, in particular resolutions 45/55 B of 4 December 1990, 47/51 of 9 December 1992 and 48/74 A of 16 December 1993, in which, inter alia, it reaffirmed the importance of confidence-building measures as a means conducive to ensuring the attainment of the objective of the prevention of an arms race in outer space,

Conscious of the benefits of confidence- and security-building measures in the military field,

Recognizing that negotiations for the conclusion of an international agreement or agreements to prevent an arms race in outer space remain a priority task of the Conference on Disarmament and that the concrete proposals on confidence-building measures could form an integral part of such agreements,

Noting with satisfaction the constructive, structured and focused debate on the prevention of an arms race in outer space at the Conference on Disarmament in 2009,

Taking note of the introduction by China and the Russian Federation at the Conference on Disarmament of the draft treaty on the prevention of the placement of weapons in outer space and of the threat or use of force against outer space objects,[42]

Taking note also of the decision of the Conference on Disarmament to establish for its 2009 session a working group to discuss, substantially, without limitation, all issues related to the prevention of an arms race in outer space,

1. *Reaffirms* the importance and urgency of preventing an arms race in outer space and the readiness of all States to contribute to that common objective, in conformity with the provisions of the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies;[38]

2. *Reaffirms its recognition*, as stated in the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space, that the legal regime applicable to outer space does not in and of itself guarantee the prevention of an arms race in outer space, that the regime plays a significant role in the prevention of an arms race in that environment, that there is a need to consolidate and reinforce that regime and enhance its effectiveness and that it is important to comply strictly with existing agreements, both bilateral and multilateral;

3. *Emphasizes* the necessity of further measures with appropriate and effective provisions for verification to prevent an arms race in outer space;

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[39] Resolution S-10/2.

[40] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/49/27), sect. III.D (para. 5 of the quoted text).

[41] CD/1125.

[42] See CD/1839.

4. *Calls upon* all States, in particular those with major space capabilities, to contribute actively to the objective of the peaceful use of outer space and of the prevention of an arms race in outer space and to refrain from actions contrary to that objective and to the relevant existing treaties in the interest of maintaining international peace and security and promoting international cooperation;

5. *Reiterates* that the Conference on Disarmament, as the sole multilateral disarmament negotiating forum, has the primary role in the negotiation of a multilateral agreement or agreements, as appropriate, on the prevention of an arms race in outer space in all its aspects;

6. *Invites* the Conference on Disarmament to establish a working group under its agenda item entitled "Prevention of an arms race in outer space" as early as possible during its 2010 session;

7. *Recognizes*, in this respect, the growing convergence of views on the elaboration of measures designed to strengthen transparency, confidence and security in the peaceful uses of outer space;

8. *Urges* States conducting activities in outer space, as well as States interested in conducting such activities, to keep the Conference on Disarmament informed of the progress of bilateral and multilateral negotiations on the matter, if any, so as to facilitate its work;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled "Prevention of an arms race in outer space".

RESOLUTION 64/29

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 2 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/391, para. 81)[43]

64/29. Treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 48/75 L of 16 December 1993, 53/77 I of 4 December 1998, 55/33 Y of 20 November 2000, 56/24 J of 29 November 2001, 57/80 of 22 November 2002, 58/57 of 8 December 2003 and 59/81 of 3 December 2004 on the subject of banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices, and noting in this regard the support for the Conference on Disarmament expressed by the Security Council summit on nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation, held on 24 September 2009,

Convinced that a non-discriminatory, multilateral and internationally and effectively verifiable treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices would be a significant contribution to nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation,

Welcoming, after years of stalemate, the consensus adoption by the Conference on Disarmament of its decision (CD/1864) of 29 May 2009 on the establishment of a programme of work for its 2009 session, by which the Conference, inter alia, and without prejudice to any past, present or future position, established a Working Group to negotiate a treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices on the basis of document CD/1299 of 24 March 1995 and the mandate contained therein,

1. *Urges* the Conference on Disarmament to agree early in 2010 on a programme of work that includes the immediate commencement of negotiations on a treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices;

2. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session an item entitled "Treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices".

RESOLUTION 64/30

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 2 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/391, para. 81)[44]

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[43] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Canada.

[44] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Austria, Belgium, Belize, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Kenya, Latvia, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Economic Community of West African States), Malta, Mauritania, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Netherlands, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Uganda, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

64/30. Assistance to States for curbing the illicit traffic in small arms and light weapons and collecting them

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 63/66 of 2 December 2008 on assistance to States for curbing the illicit traffic in small arms and light weapons and collecting them,

Deeply concerned by the magnitude of human casualty and suffering, especially among children, caused by the illicit proliferation and use of small arms and light weapons,

Concerned by the negative impact that the illicit proliferation and use of those weapons continue to have on the efforts of States in the Sahelo-Saharan subregion in the areas of poverty eradication, sustainable development and the maintenance of peace, security and stability,

Bearing in mind the Bamako Declaration on an African Common Position on the Illicit Proliferation, Circulation and Trafficking of Small Arms and Light Weapons, adopted at Bamako on 1 December 2000,[45]

Recalling the report of the Secretary-General entitled "In larger freedom: towards development, security and human rights for all",[46] in which he emphasized that States must strive just as hard to eliminate the threat of illicit small arms and light weapons as they do to eliminate the threat of weapons of mass destruction,

Recalling also the International Instrument to Enable States to Identify and Trace, in a Timely and Reliable Manner, Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons, adopted on 8 December 2005,[47]

Welcoming the expression of support in the 2005 World Summit Outcome for the implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects,[48]

Welcoming also the adoption, at the thirtieth ordinary summit of the Economic Community of West African States, held in Abuja in June 2006, of the Convention on Small Arms and Light Weapons, Their Ammunition and Other Related Materials, in replacement of the moratorium on the importation, exportation and manufacture of small arms and light weapons in West Africa,

Welcoming further the decision taken by the Economic Community to establish a Small Arms Unit responsible for advocating appropriate policies and developing and implementing programmes, as well as the establishment of the Economic Community's Small Arms Control Programme, launched on 6 June 2006 in Bamako, in replacement of the Programme for Coordination and Assistance for Security and Development,

Taking note of the latest report of the Secretary-General on assistance to States for curbing the illicit traffic in small arms and light weapons and collecting them and the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects,[49]

Welcoming, in that regard, the decision of the European Union to significantly support the Economic Community in its efforts to combat the illicit proliferation of small arms and light weapons,

Recognizing the important role that civil society organizations play, by raising public awareness, in efforts to curb the illicit traffic in small arms and light weapons,

Taking note of the report of the United Nations Conference to Review Progress Made in the Implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, held in New York from 26 June to 7 July 2006,[50]

1. *Commends* the United Nations and international, regional and other organizations for their assistance to States for curbing the illicit traffic in small arms and light weapons and collecting them;

2. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to pursue his efforts in the context of the implementation of General Assembly resolution 49/75 G of 15 December 1994 and the recommendations of the United Nations advisory missions aimed at curbing the illicit circulation of small arms and light weapons and collecting them in the affected States that so request, with the support of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa and in close cooperation with the African Union;

3. *Encourages* the international community to support the implementation of the Economic Community of West African States Convention on Small Arms and Light Weapons, Their Ammunition and Other Related Materials;

4. *Encourages* the countries of the Sahelo-Saharan subregion to facilitate the effective functioning of national commissions to combat the illicit proliferation of small arms and light weapons, and, in that regard, invites the international community to lend its support wherever possible;

5. *Encourages* the collaboration of civil society organizations and associations in the efforts of the national

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[45] A/CONF.192/PC/23, annex.

[46] A/59/2005.

[47] A/60/88 and Corr.2, annex; see also decision 60/519.

[48] See resolution 60/1, para. 94.

[49] A/64/173.

[50] A/CONF.192/2006/RC/9.

commissions to combat the illicit traffic in small arms and light weapons and in the implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects;[51]

6. *Also encourages* cooperation among State organs, international organizations and civil society in support of programmes and projects aimed at combating the illicit traffic in small arms and light weapons and collecting them;

7. *Calls upon* the international community to provide technical and financial support to strengthen the capacity of civil society organizations to take action to help to combat the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons;

8. *Invites* the Secretary-General and those States and organizations that are in a position to do so to continue to provide assistance to States for curbing the illicit traffic in small arms and light weapons and collecting them;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to consider the matter and to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

10. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled "Assistance to States for curbing the illicit traffic in small arms and light weapons and collecting them".

RESOLUTION 64/31

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 2 December 2009, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/391, para. 81),[52] by a recorded vote of 109 to 56, with 10 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Bahrain, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chile, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Fiji, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Philippines, Qatar, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Comoros, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Panama, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Armenia, Azerbaijan, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, India, Pakistan, Peru, Samoa, Tonga

64/31. Follow-up to nuclear disarmament obligations agreed to at the 1995 and 2000 Review Conferences of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

The General Assembly,

Recalling its various resolutions in the field of nuclear disarmament, including its most recent, resolutions 62/24 of 5 December 2007, and 63/46, 63/49 and 63/75 of 2 December 2008,

Bearing in mind its resolution 2373 (XXII) of 12 June 1968, the annex to which contains the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[53]

Noting the provisions of article VIII, paragraph 3, of the Treaty regarding the convening of review conferences at five-year intervals,

Recalling its resolution 50/70 Q of 12 December 1995, in which the General Assembly noted that the States parties to the Treaty affirmed the need to continue to move with determination towards the full realization and effective implementation of the provisions of the Treaty, and accordingly adopted a set of principles and objectives,

Recalling also that, on 11 May 1995, the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons adopted three decisions on strengthening the review process for the Treaty, principles and objectives for nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament, and extension of the Treaty,[54]

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[51] See *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, New York, 9–20 July 2001* (A/CONF.192/15), chap. IV, para. 24.

[52] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by the Islamic Republic of Iran.

[53] See also United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

[54] See *1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document, Part I* (NPT/CONF.1995/32 (Part I) and Corr.2), annex.

Reaffirming the resolution on the Middle East adopted on 11 May 1995 by the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty,[54] in which the Conference reaffirmed the importance of the early realization of universal adherence to the Treaty and placement of nuclear facilities under full-scope International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards,

Reaffirming also its resolution 55/33 D of 20 November 2000, in which the General Assembly welcomed the adoption by consensus on 19 May 2000 of the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[55] including, in particular, the documents entitled "Review of the operation of the Treaty, taking into account the decisions and the resolution adopted by the 1995 Review and Extension Conference" and "Improving the effectiveness of the strengthened review process for the Treaty",[56]

Taking into consideration the unequivocal undertaking by the nuclear-weapon States, in the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty, to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals leading to nuclear disarmament, to which all States parties to the Treaty are committed under article VI of the Treaty,

Gravely concerned over the failure of the 2005 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty to reach any substantive agreement on the follow-up to the nuclear disarmament obligations,

Noting with satisfaction that the Preparatory Committee for the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty finalized the procedural arrangements for the Review Conference,

1. *Determines* to pursue practical steps for systematic and progressive efforts to implement article VI of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[53] and paragraphs 3 and 4 (*c*) of the decision on principles and objectives for nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament of the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons;[54]

2. *Calls for* practical steps, as agreed to at the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, to be taken by all nuclear-weapon States, which would lead to nuclear disarmament in a way that promotes international stability and, based on the principle of undiminished security for all:

(*a*) Further efforts to be made by the nuclear-weapon States to reduce their nuclear arsenals unilaterally;

(*b*) Increased transparency by the nuclear-weapon States with regard to nuclear weapons capabilities and the implementation of agreements pursuant to article VI of the Treaty and as a voluntary confidence-building measure to support further progress in nuclear disarmament;

(*c*) The further reduction of non-strategic nuclear weapons, based on unilateral initiatives and as an integral part of the nuclear arms reduction and disarmament process;

(*d*) Concrete agreed measures to reduce further the operational status of nuclear weapons systems;

(*e*) A diminishing role for nuclear weapons in security policies so as to minimize the risk that these weapons will ever be used and to facilitate the process of their total elimination;

(*f*) The engagement, as soon as appropriate, of all the nuclear-weapon States in the process leading to the total elimination of their nuclear weapons;

3. *Notes* that the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty agreed that legally binding security assurances by the five nuclear-weapon States to the non-nuclear-weapon States parties to the Treaty strengthen the nuclear non-proliferation regime;

4. *Urges* the States parties to the Treaty to follow up on the implementation of the nuclear disarmament obligations under the Treaty agreed to at the 1995 and 2000 Review Conferences of the Parties to the Treaty within the framework of Review Conferences of the Parties to the Treaty and their Preparatory Committees;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-sixth session the item entitled "Follow-up to nuclear disarmament obligations agreed to at the 1995 and 2000 Review Conferences of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons".

RESOLUTION 64/32

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 2 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/391, para. 81)[57]

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[55] *2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vols. I–III (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Parts I-IV)).

[56] Ibid., vol. I (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Parts I and II)), part I.

[57] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Fiji, Indonesia (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries) and Uruguay.

64/32. Relationship between disarmament and development

The General Assembly,

Recalling that the Charter of the United Nations envisages the establishment and maintenance of international peace and security with the least diversion for armaments of the world's human and economic resources,

Recalling also the provisions of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly concerning the relationship between disarmament and development,[58] as well as the adoption on 11 September 1987 of the Final Document of the International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development,[59]

Recalling further its resolutions 49/75 J of 15 December 1994, 50/70 G of 12 December 1995, 51/45 D of 10 December 1996, 52/38 D of 9 December 1997, 53/77 K of 4 December 1998, 54/54 T of 1 December 1999, 55/33 L of 20 November 2000, 56/24 E of 29 November 2001, 57/65 of 22 November 2002, 59/78 of 3 December 2004, 60/61 of 8 December 2005, 61/64 of 6 December 2006, 62/48 of 5 December 2007 and 63/52 of 2 December 2008, and its decision 58/520 of 8 December 2003,

Bearing in mind the Final Document of the Twelfth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Durban, South Africa, from 29 August to 3 September 1998,[60] and the Final Document of the Thirteenth Ministerial Conference of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Cartagena, Colombia, on 8 and 9 April 2000,[61]

Mindful of the changes in international relations that have taken place since the adoption on 11 September 1987 of the Final Document of the International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development, including the development agenda that has emerged over the past decade,

Bearing in mind the new challenges for the international community in the field of development, poverty eradication and the elimination of the diseases that afflict humanity,

Stressing the importance of the symbiotic relationship between disarmament and development and the important role of security in this connection, and concerned at increasing global military expenditure, which could otherwise be spent on development needs,

Recalling the report of the Group of Governmental Experts on the relationship between disarmament and development[62] and its reappraisal of this significant issue in the current international context,

Bearing in mind the importance of following up on the implementation of the action programme adopted at the 1987 International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development,[59]

1. *Stresses* the central role of the United Nations in the disarmament-development relationship, and requests the Secretary-General to strengthen further the role of the Organization in this field, in particular the high-level Steering Group on Disarmament and Development, in order to ensure continued and effective coordination and close cooperation between the relevant United Nations departments, agencies and sub-agencies;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to take action, through appropriate organs and within available resources, for the implementation of the action programme adopted at the 1987 International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development;[59]

3. *Urges* the international community to devote part of the resources made available by the implementation of disarmament and arms limitation agreements to economic and social development, with a view to reducing the ever-widening gap between developed and developing countries;

4. *Encourages* the international community to achieve the Millennium Development Goals and to make reference to the contribution that disarmament could provide in meeting them when it reviews its progress towards this purpose in 2010, as well as to make greater efforts to integrate disarmament, humanitarian and development activities;

5. *Encourages* the relevant regional and subregional organizations and institutions, non-governmental organizations and research institutes to incorporate issues related to the relationship between disarmament and development in their agendas and, in this regard, to take into account the report of the Group of Governmental Experts on the relationship between disarmament and development;[62]

6. *Reiterates its invitation* to Member States to provide the Secretary-General with information regarding measures and efforts to devote part of the resources made available by the implementation of disarmament and arms limitation agreements to economic and social development, with a view to reducing the ever-widening gap between developed and developing countries;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution, including the information provided by Member States pursuant to paragraph 6 above;

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[58] See resolution S-10/2.

[59] United Nations publication, Sales No. E.87.IX.8.

[60] A/53/667-S/1998/1071, annex I.

[61] A/54/917-S/2000/580, annex.

[62] See A/59/119.

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled "Relationship between disarmament and development".

RESOLUTION 64/33

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 2 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/391, para. 81)[63]

64/33. Observance of environmental norms in the drafting and implementation of agreements on disarmament and arms control

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 50/70 M of 12 December 1995, 51/45 E of 10 December 1996, 52/38 E of 9 December 1997, 53/77 J of 4 December 1998, 54/54 S of 1 December 1999, 55/33 K of 20 November 2000, 56/24 F of 29 November 2001, 57/64 of 22 November 2002, 58/45 of 8 December 2003, 59/68 of 3 December 2004, 60/60 of 8 December 2005, 61/63 of 6 December 2006, 62/28 of 5 December 2007 and 63/51 of 2 December 2008,

Emphasizing the importance of the observance of environmental norms in the preparation and implementation of disarmament and arms limitation agreements,

Recognizing that it is necessary to take duly into account the agreements adopted at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, as well as prior relevant agreements, in the drafting and implementation of agreements on disarmament and arms limitation,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to resolution 63/51,[64]

Noting that the Fifteenth Summit Conference of Heads of State and Government of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, from 11 to 16 July 2009, welcomed the adoption of resolution 63/51, the first resolution adopted without a vote by the General Assembly on the observance of environmental norms in the drafting and implementation of agreements on disarmament and arms control,

Mindful of the detrimental environmental effects of the use of nuclear weapons,

1. *Reaffirms* that international disarmament forums should take fully into account the relevant environmental norms in negotiating treaties and agreements on disarmament and arms limitation and that all States, through their actions, should contribute fully to ensuring compliance with the aforementioned norms in the implementation of treaties and conventions to which they are parties;

2. *Calls upon* States to adopt unilateral, bilateral, regional and multilateral measures so as to contribute to ensuring the application of scientific and technological progress within the framework of international security, disarmament and other related spheres, without detriment to the environment or to its effective contribution to attaining sustainable development;

3. *Welcomes* the information provided by Member States on the implementation of the measures they have adopted to promote the objectives envisaged in the present resolution;[64]

4. *Invites* all Member States to communicate to the Secretary-General information on the measures they have adopted to promote the objectives envisaged in the present resolution, and requests the Secretary-General to submit a report containing that information to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled "Observance of environmental norms in the drafting and implementation of agreements on disarmament and arms control".

RESOLUTION 64/34

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 2 December 2009, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/391, para. 81),[65] by a recorded vote of 122 to 5, with 49 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Fiji, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South

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[63] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Fiji, and Indonesia (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries).

[64] A/64/118 and Add.1.

[65] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Fiji, Indonesia (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries) and Uruguay.

Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel, Micronesia (Federated States of), Palau, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine

64/34. Promotion of multilateralism in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation

The General Assembly,

Determined to foster strict respect for the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling its resolution 56/24 T of 29 November 2001 on multilateral cooperation in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation and global efforts against terrorism and other relevant resolutions, as well as its resolutions 57/63 of 22 November 2002, 58/44 of 8 December 2003, 59/69 of 3 December 2004, 60/59 of 8 December 2005, 61/62 of 6 December 2006, 62/27 of 5 December 2007 and 63/50 of 2 December 2008 on the promotion of multilateralism in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation,

Recalling also the purpose of the United Nations to maintain international peace and security and, to that end, to take effective collective measures for the prevention and removal of threats to the peace and for the suppression of acts of aggression or other breaches of the peace, and to bring about by peaceful means, and in conformity with the principles of justice and international law, adjustment or settlement of international disputes or situations which might lead to a breach of the peace, as enshrined in the Charter,

Recalling further the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[66] which states, inter alia, that the responsibility for managing worldwide economic and social development, as well as threats to international peace and security, must be shared among the nations of the world and should be exercised multilaterally and that, as the most universal and most representative organization in the world, the United Nations must play the central role,

Convinced that, in the globalization era and with the information revolution, arms regulation, non-proliferation and disarmament problems are more than ever the concern of all countries in the world, which are affected in one way or another by these problems and, therefore, should have the possibility to participate in the negotiations that arise to tackle them,

Bearing in mind the existence of a broad structure of disarmament and arms regulation agreements resulting from non-discriminatory and transparent multilateral negotiations with the participation of a large number of countries, regardless of their size and power,

Aware of the need to advance further in the field of arms regulation, non-proliferation and disarmament on the basis of universal, multilateral, non-discriminatory and transparent negotiations with the goal of reaching general and complete disarmament under strict international control,

Recognizing the complementarity of bilateral, plurilateral and multilateral negotiations on disarmament,

Recognizing also that the proliferation and development of weapons of mass destruction, including nuclear weapons, are among the most immediate threats to international peace and security which need to be dealt with, with the highest priority,

Considering that the multilateral disarmament agreements provide the mechanism for States parties to consult one another and to cooperate in solving any problems which may arise in relation to the objective of, or in the application of, the provisions of the agreements and that such consultations and cooperation may also be undertaken through appropriate international procedures within the framework of the United Nations and in accordance with the Charter,

Stressing that international cooperation, the peaceful settlement of disputes, dialogue and confidence-building measures would contribute essentially to the creation of multilateral and bilateral friendly relations among peoples and nations,

Being concerned at the continuous erosion of multilateralism in the field of arms regulation, non-proliferation and disarmament, and recognizing that a resort to unilateral actions by Member States in resolving their security concerns would jeopardize international peace and security and undermine confidence in the international security system as well as the foundations of the United Nations itself,

Noting that the Fifteenth Summit Conference of Heads of State and Government of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, from 11 to 16 July 2009, welcomed the adoption of resolution 63/50 on the promotion of multilateralism in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation, and underlined the fact that multilateralism and multilaterally agreed solutions, in accordance with the Charter, provide the only sustainable method of addressing disarmament and international security issues,

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[66] See resolution 55/2.

Reaffirming the absolute validity of multilateral diplomacy in the field of disarmament and non-proliferation, and determined to promote multilateralism as an essential way to develop arms regulation and disarmament negotiations,

1. *Reaffirms* multilateralism as the core principle in negotiations in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation with a view to maintaining and strengthening universal norms and enlarging their scope;

2. *Also reaffirms* multilateralism as the core principle in resolving disarmament and non-proliferation concerns;

3. *Urges* the participation of all interested States in multilateral negotiations on arms regulation, non-proliferation and disarmament in a non-discriminatory and transparent manner;

4. *Underlines* the importance of preserving the existing agreements on arms regulation and disarmament, which constitute an expression of the results of international cooperation and multilateral negotiations in response to the challenges facing mankind;

5. *Calls once again upon* all Member States to renew and fulfil their individual and collective commitments to multilateral cooperation as an important means of pursuing and achieving their common objectives in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation;

6. *Requests* the States parties to the relevant instruments on weapons of mass destruction to consult and cooperate among themselves in resolving their concerns with regard to cases of non-compliance as well as on implementation, in accordance with the procedures defined in those instruments, and to refrain from resorting or threatening to resort to unilateral actions or directing unverified non-compliance accusations against one another to resolve their concerns;

7. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General containing the replies of Member States on the promotion of multilateralism in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation, submitted pursuant to resolution 63/50;[67]

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to seek the views of Member States on the issue of the promotion of multilateralism in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation and to submit a report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled "Promotion of multilateralism in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation".

RESOLUTION 64/35

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 2 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/391, para. 81)[68]

64/35. International Day against Nuclear Tests

The General Assembly,

Recalling that the promotion of peace and security is among the main purposes and principles of the United Nations embodied in the Charter,

Convinced that every effort should be made to end nuclear tests in order to avert devastating and harmful effects on the lives and health of people and the environment,

Convinced also that the end of nuclear tests is one of the key means of achieving the goal of a nuclear-weapon-free world,

Welcoming the recent positive momentum in the international community to work towards this goal,

Emphasizing, in this context, the essential role of Governments, intergovernmental organizations, civil society, academia and mass media,

Acknowledging the related importance of education as a tool for peace, security, disarmament and non-proliferation,

1. *Declares* 29 August the International Day against Nuclear Tests, devoted to enhancing public awareness and education about the effects of nuclear weapon test explosions or any other nuclear explosions and the need for their cessation as one of the means of achieving the goal of a nuclear-weapon-free world;

2. *Invites* Member States, the United Nations system, civil society, academia, the mass media and individuals to commemorate the International Day against Nuclear Tests in an appropriate manner, including through all means of educational and public awareness-raising activities.

RESOLUTION 64/36

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 2 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/391, para. 81)[69]

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[67] A/64/117 and Add.1.

[68] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Armenia, Belarus, Belize, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Chile, Comoros, Congo, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Gambia, Guyana, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Nepal, Niger, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan.

[69] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Ireland and the Lao People's Democratic Republic.

64/36. Convention on Cluster Munitions

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 63/71 of 2 December 2008,

Recalling also the conclusion of negotiations on the Convention on Cluster Munitions[70] in Dublin on 30 May 2008 and the opening for signature of the Convention in Oslo on 3 December 2008, and thereafter at United Nations Headquarters pending its entry into force,

Noting the signature of the Convention on behalf of many States and the growing number of ratifications by signatories, which now approaches that required for entry into force of the Convention in accordance with its terms,

1. *Welcomes* the offer of the Government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic to host the First Meeting of States Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions[70] following its entry into force;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in accordance with article 11, paragraph 2, of the Convention, to undertake the preparations necessary to convene the First Meeting of States Parties to the Convention following its entry into force.

RESOLUTION 64/37

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 2 December 2009, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/391, para. 81),[71] by a recorded vote of 115 to 50, with 14 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Fiji, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, China, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Marshall Islands, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Serbia, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan

64/37. Reducing nuclear danger

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind that the use of nuclear weapons poses the most serious threat to mankind and to the survival of civilization,

Reaffirming that any use or threat of use of nuclear weapons would constitute a violation of the Charter of the United Nations,

Convinced that the proliferation of nuclear weapons in all its aspects would seriously enhance the danger of nuclear war,

Convinced also that nuclear disarmament and the complete elimination of nuclear weapons are essential to remove the danger of nuclear war,

Considering that, until nuclear weapons cease to exist, it is imperative on the part of the nuclear-weapon States to adopt measures that assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

Considering also that the hair-trigger alert of nuclear weapons carries unacceptable risks of unintentional or accidental use of nuclear weapons, which would have catastrophic consequences for all mankind,

Emphasizing the need to adopt measures to avoid accidental, unauthorized or unexplained incidents arising from computer anomaly or other technical malfunctions,

Conscious that limited steps relating to de-alerting and de-targeting have been taken by the nuclear-weapon States and that further practical, realistic and mutually reinforcing steps are necessary to contribute to the improvement in the international climate for negotiations leading to the elimination of nuclear weapons,

Mindful that a diminishing role for nuclear weapons in the security policies of nuclear-weapon States would positively impact on international peace and security and improve the conditions for the further reduction and the elimination of nuclear weapons,

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[70] A/C.1/63/5, enclosure, part II.

[71] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Cambodia, Chile, Comoros, Cuba, Democratic Republic of the Congo, El Salvador, Fiji, Gabon, Haiti, India, Jamaica, Jordan, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mauritius, Myanmar, Nepal, Nicaragua, Sudan, Viet Nam and Zambia.

Reiterating the highest priority accorded to nuclear disarmament in the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly[72] and by the international community,

Recalling the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons*[73] that there exists an obligation for all States to pursue in good faith and bring to a conclusion negotiations leading to nuclear disarmament in all its aspects under strict and effective international control,

Recalling also the call in the United Nations Millennium Declaration[74] to seek to eliminate the dangers posed by weapons of mass destruction and the resolve to strive for the elimination of weapons of mass destruction, particularly nuclear weapons, including the possibility of convening an international conference to identify ways of eliminating nuclear dangers,

1. *Calls for* a review of nuclear doctrines and, in this context, immediate and urgent steps to reduce the risks of unintentional and accidental use of nuclear weapons, including through the de-alerting and de-targeting of nuclear weapons;

2. *Requests* the five nuclear-weapon States to take measures towards the implementation of paragraph 1 above;

3. *Calls upon* Member States to take the necessary measures to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons in all its aspects and to promote nuclear disarmament, with the objective of eliminating nuclear weapons;

4. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to paragraph 5 of resolution 63/47 of 2 December 2008;[75]

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to intensify efforts and support initiatives that would contribute towards the full implementation of the seven recommendations identified in the report of the Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters that would significantly reduce the risk of nuclear war,[76] and also to continue to encourage Member States to consider the convening of an international conference, as proposed in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[74] to identify ways of eliminating nuclear dangers, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled "Reducing nuclear danger".

RESOLUTION 64/38

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 2 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/391, para. 81)[77]

64/38. Measures to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 63/60 of 2 December 2008,

Recognizing the determination of the international community to combat terrorism, as evidenced in relevant General Assembly and Security Council resolutions,

Deeply concerned by the growing risk of linkages between terrorism and weapons of mass destruction, and in particular by the fact that terrorists may seek to acquire weapons of mass destruction,

Cognizant of the steps taken by States to implement Security Council resolution 1540 (2004) on the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, adopted on 28 April 2004,

Welcoming the entry into force on 7 July 2007 of the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism,[78]

Welcoming also the adoption, by consensus, of amendments to strengthen the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material[79] by the International Atomic Energy Agency on 8 July 2005,

Noting the support expressed in the Final Document of the Fifteenth Summit Conference of Heads of State and Government of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, which was held in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, from 11 to 16 July 2009,[80] for measures to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction,

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[72] Resolution S-10/2.

[73] A/51/218, annex; see also *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons, Advisory Opinion, I.C.J. Reports 1996*, p. 226.

[74] See resolution 55/2.

[75] A/64/139.

[76] See A/56/400, para. 3.

[77] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Albania, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Central African Republic, Chile, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Dominica, El Salvador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mauritius, Monaco, Montenegro, Myanmar, Nepal, Netherlands, Norway, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Zambia.

[78] Resolution 59/290, annex.

[79] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1456, No. 24631.

[80] See A/63/965-S/2009/514, annex.

Noting also that the Group of Eight, the European Union, the Regional Forum of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and others have taken into account in their deliberations the dangers posed by the likely acquisition by terrorists of weapons of mass destruction, and the need for international cooperation in combating it,

Noting further the Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism, launched jointly by the Russian Federation and the United States of America, and the proposed Global Summit on Nuclear Security to be hosted by the United States of America in 2010,

Acknowledging the consideration of issues relating to terrorism and weapons of mass destruction by the Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters,[81]

Taking note of the relevant resolutions adopted by the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency at its fifty-third regular session,[82]

Taking note also of the 2005 World Summit Outcome adopted at the High-level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly in September 2005[83] and adoption of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy on 8 September 2006,[84]

Taking note further of the report of the Secretary-General, submitted pursuant to paragraph 5 of resolution 63/60,[85]

Mindful of the urgent need for addressing, within the United Nations framework and through international cooperation, this threat to humanity,

Emphasizing that progress is urgently needed in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation in order to maintain international peace and security and to contribute to global efforts against terrorism,

1. *Calls upon* all Member States to support international efforts to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery;

2. *Appeals* to all Member States to consider early accession to and ratification of the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism;[78]

3. *Urges* all Member States to take and strengthen national measures, as appropriate, to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction, their means of delivery and materials and technologies related to their manufacture;

4. *Encourages* cooperation among and between Member States and relevant regional and international organizations for strengthening national capacities in this regard;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to compile a report on measures already taken by international organizations on issues relating to the linkage between the fight against terrorism and the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and to seek the views of Member States on additional relevant measures, including national measures, for tackling the global threat posed by the acquisition by terrorists of weapons of mass destruction and to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled "Measures to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction".

RESOLUTION 64/39

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 2 December 2009, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/391, para. 81),[86] by a recorded vote of 174 to none, with 6 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan,

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[81] See A/59/361.

[82] See International Atomic Energy Agency, *Resolutions and Other Decisions of the General Conference, Fifty-third Regular Session, 14–18 September 2009* (GC(53)/RES/DEC(2009)).

[83] See resolution 60/1.

[84] Resolution 60/288.

[85] See A/64/140 and Add.1.

[86] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Australia, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, Grenada, Jamaica, Mexico, Mongolia, Nepal, New Zealand, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Thailand (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the States parties to the Treaty on the South-East Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone), Timor-Leste, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan and Zambia.

Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: None

Abstaining: France, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Palau, United States of America

64/39. Treaty on the South-East Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone (Bangkok Treaty)

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 62/31 of 5 December 2007, entitled "Treaty on the South-East Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free-Zone (Bangkok Treaty)",

Welcoming the desire of the South-East Asian States to maintain peace and stability in the region in the spirit of peaceful coexistence and mutual understanding and cooperation,

Noting the entry into force of the Charter of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations on 15 December 2008, which states, inter alia, that one of the purposes of the Association is to preserve South-East Asia as a nuclear-weapon-free zone, free of all other weapons of mass destruction,

Noting also the convening of the second Conference of States Parties and Signatories of Treaties that Establish Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones and Mongolia,

Reaffirming its conviction of the important role of nuclear-weapon-free zones in strengthening the nuclear non-proliferation regime and in extending the areas of the world that are nuclear-weapon-free, and, with particular reference to the responsibilities of the nuclear-weapon States, calling upon all States to support the process of nuclear disarmament and to work for the total elimination of all nuclear weapons,

Convinced that the establishment of a South-East Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone, as an essential component of the Declaration on the Zone of Peace, Freedom and Neutrality, signed in Kuala Lumpur on 27 November 1971, will contribute towards strengthening the security of States within the Zone and towards enhancing international peace and security as a whole,

Noting the entry into force of the Treaty on the South-East Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone on 27 March 1997[87] and the tenth anniversary of its entry into force in 2007,

Welcoming the reaffirmation of South-East Asian States that the South-East Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone shall continue to play a pivotal role in the area of confidence-building measures, preventive diplomacy and the approaches to conflict resolution as enshrined in the Declaration of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Concord II (Bali Concord II),[88]

Reaffirming the inalienable right of all the parties to the Treaty on the South-East Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone to develop research, production and use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes without discrimination and in conformity with the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[89]

Recognizing that by signing and ratifying the relevant protocols to the treaties establishing nuclear-weapon-free zones, nuclear-weapon States undertake legally binding commitments to respect the status of such zones and not to use or threaten to use nuclear weapons against States parties to such treaties,

Recalling the applicable principles and rules of international law relating to the freedom of the high seas and the rights of innocent passage, archipelagic sea lanes passage or transit passage of ships and aircraft, particularly those of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea,[90]

1. *Welcomes* the commitment and efforts of the Commission for the Treaty on the South-East Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone to further enhance and strengthen the implementation of the Bangkok Treaty[87] by implementing the Plan of Action for the period 2007–2012, adopted in Manila on 29 July 2007, and the recent decision of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Political-Security Community Council, established under the Charter of the Association, to give priority to the implementation of the Plan of Action;

2. *Encourages* States parties to the Treaty to resume direct consultations with the five nuclear-weapon States to resolve comprehensively, in accordance with the objectives and principles of the Treaty, existing outstanding issues on a number of provisions of the Treaty and the Protocol thereto;

3. *Encourages* nuclear-weapon States and States parties to the Treaty to work constructively with a view to ensuring the early accession of the nuclear-weapon States to the Protocol to the Treaty;

4. *Underlines* the value of enhancing and implementing further ways and means of cooperation among nuclear-weapon-free zones;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-sixth session the item entitled "Treaty on the South-East Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone (Bangkok Treaty)".

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[87] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1981, No. 33873.

[88] A/58/548, annex I.

[89] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

[90] Ibid., vol. 1833, No. 31363.

RESOLUTION 64/40

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 2 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/391, para. 81)[91]

64/40. National legislation on transfer of arms, military equipment and dual-use goods and technology

The General Assembly,

Recognizing that disarmament, arms control and non-proliferation are essential for the maintenance of international peace and security,

Recalling that effective national control of the transfer of arms, military equipment and dual-use goods and technology, including those transfers that could contribute to proliferation activities, is an important tool for achieving those objectives,

Recalling also that the States parties to the international disarmament and non-proliferation treaties have undertaken to facilitate the fullest possible exchange of materials, equipment and technological information for peaceful purposes, in accordance with the provisions of those treaties,

Considering that the exchange of national legislation, regulations and procedures on the transfer of arms, military equipment and dual-use goods and technology contributes to mutual understanding and confidence among Member States,

Convinced that such an exchange would be beneficial to Member States that are in the process of developing such legislation,

Welcoming the electronic database established by the Office for Disarmament Affairs,[92] in which all information exchanged pursuant to General Assembly resolutions 57/66 of 22 November 2002, 58/42 of 8 December 2003, 59/66 of 3 December 2004, 60/69 of 8 December 2005 and 62/26 of 5 December 2007, entitled "National legislation on transfer of arms, military equipment and dual-use goods and technology", can be consulted,

Reaffirming the inherent right of individual or collective self-defence in accordance with Article 51 of the Charter of the United Nations,

1. *Invites* Member States that are in a position to do so, without prejudice to the provisions contained in Security Council resolution 1540 (2004) of 28 April 2004 and subsequent relevant Council resolutions, to enact or improve national legislation, regulations and procedures to exercise effective control over the transfer of arms, military equipment and dual-use goods and technology, while ensuring that such legislation, regulations and procedures are consistent with the obligations of States parties under international treaties;

2. *Encourages* Member States to provide, on a voluntary basis, information to the Secretary-General on their national legislation, regulations and procedures on the transfer of arms, military equipment and dual-use goods and technology, as well as the changes therein, and requests the Secretary-General to make that information accessible to Member States;

3. *Decides* to remain attentive to the matter.

RESOLUTION 64/41

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 2 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/391, para. 81)[93]

64/41. Regional disarmament

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 45/58 P of 4 December 1990, 46/36 I of 6 December 1991, 47/52 J of 9 December 1992, 48/75 I of 16 December 1993, 49/75 N of 15 December 1994, 50/70 K of 12 December 1995, 51/45 K of 10 December 1996, 52/38 P of 9 December 1997, 53/77 O of 4 December 1998, 54/54 N of 1 December 1999, 55/33 O of 20 November 2000, 56/24 H of 29 November 2001, 57/76 of 22 November 2002, 58/38 of 8 December 2003, 59/89 of 3 December 2004, 60/63 of 8 December 2005, 61/80 of 6 December 2006, 62/38 of 5 December 2007 and 63/43 of 2 December 2008 on regional disarmament,

Believing that the efforts of the international community to move towards the ideal of general and complete disarmament are guided by the inherent human desire for genuine peace and security, the elimination of the danger of war and the release of economic, intellectual and other resources for peaceful pursuits,

Affirming the abiding commitment of all States to the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations in the conduct of their international relations,

Noting that essential guidelines for progress towards general and complete disarmament were adopted at the tenth special session of the General Assembly,[94]

Taking note of the guidelines and recommendations for regional approaches to disarmament within the context of global security adopted by the Disarmament Commission at its 1993 substantive session,[95]

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[91] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by the Netherlands.

[92] Available from www.un.org/disarmament/convarms/NLDU/html/NLDU.shtml.

[93] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Comoros, Ecuador, Egypt, Fiji, Indonesia, Jordan, Kuwait, Nepal, Pakistan, Peru, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka and Turkey.

[94] See resolution S-10/2.

Welcoming the prospects of genuine progress in the field of disarmament engendered in recent years as a result of negotiations between the two super-Powers,

Taking note of the recent proposals for disarmament at the regional and subregional levels,

Recognizing the importance of confidence-building measures for regional and international peace and security,

Convinced that endeavours by countries to promote regional disarmament, taking into account the specific characteristics of each region and in accordance with the principle of undiminished security at the lowest level of armaments, would enhance the security of all States and would thus contribute to international peace and security by reducing the risk of regional conflicts,

1. *Stresses* that sustained efforts are needed, within the framework of the Conference on Disarmament and under the umbrella of the United Nations, to make progress on the entire range of disarmament issues;

2. *Affirms* that global and regional approaches to disarmament complement each other and should therefore be pursued simultaneously to promote regional and international peace and security;

3. *Calls upon* States to conclude agreements, wherever possible, for nuclear non-proliferation, disarmament and confidence-building measures at the regional and subregional levels;

4. *Welcomes* the initiatives towards disarmament, nuclear non-proliferation and security undertaken by some countries at the regional and subregional levels;

5. *Supports and encourages* efforts aimed at promoting confidence-building measures at the regional and subregional levels to ease regional tensions and to further disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation measures at the regional and subregional levels;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled "Regional disarmament".

RESOLUTION 64/42

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 2 December 2009, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/391, para. 81),[96] by a recorded vote of 174 to 1, with 2 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: India

Abstaining: Bhutan, Russian Federation

64/42. Conventional arms control at the regional and subregional levels

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 48/75 J of 16 December 1993, 49/75 O of 15 December 1994, 50/70 L of 12 December 1995, 51/45 Q of 10 December 1996, 52/38 Q of 9 December 1997, 53/77 P of 4 December 1998, 54/54 M of 1 December 1999, 55/33 P of 20 November 2000, 56/24 I of 29 November 2001, 57/77 of 22 November 2002, 58/39 of 8 December 2003, 59/88 of 3 December 2004, 60/75 of 8 December 2005, 61/82 of 6 December 2006, 62/44 of 5 December 2007 and 63/44 of 2 December 2008,

Recognizing the crucial role of conventional arms control in promoting regional and international peace and security,

Convinced that conventional arms control needs to be pursued primarily in the regional and subregional contexts since most threats to peace and security in the post-cold-war era arise mainly among States located in the same region or subregion,

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[95] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 42* (A/48/42), annex II.

[96] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Belarus, Comoros, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Fiji, Italy, Nepal, Pakistan, Peru, Syrian Arab Republic and Ukraine.

Aware that the preservation of a balance in the defence capabilities of States at the lowest level of armaments would contribute to peace and stability and should be a prime objective of conventional arms control,

Desirous of promoting agreements to strengthen regional peace and security at the lowest possible level of armaments and military forces,

Noting with particular interest the initiatives taken in this regard in different regions of the world, in particular the commencement of consultations among a number of Latin American countries and the proposals for conventional arms control made in the context of South Asia, and recognizing, in the context of this subject, the relevance and value of the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe,[97] which is a cornerstone of European security,

Believing that militarily significant States and States with larger military capabilities have a special responsibility in promoting such agreements for regional security,

Believing also that an important objective of conventional arms control in regions of tension should be to prevent the possibility of military attack launched by surprise and to avoid aggression,

1. *Decides* to give urgent consideration to the issues involved in conventional arms control at the regional and subregional levels;

2. *Requests* the Conference on Disarmament to consider the formulation of principles that can serve as a framework for regional agreements on conventional arms control, and looks forward to a report of the Conference on this subject;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in the meantime, to seek the views of Member States on the subject and to submit a report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session;

4. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled "Conventional arms control at the regional and subregional levels".

RESOLUTION 64/43

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 2 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/391, para. 81)[98]

64/43. Confidence-building measures in the regional and subregional context

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling its resolutions 58/43 of 8 December 2003, 59/87 of 3 December 2004, 60/64 of 8 December 2005, 61/81 of 6 December 2006, 62/45 of 5 December 2007 and 63/45 of 2 December 2008,

Recalling also its resolution 57/337 of 3 July 2003 entitled "Prevention of armed conflict", in which it calls upon Member States to settle their disputes by peaceful means, as set out in Chapter VI of the Charter, inter alia, by any procedures adopted by the parties,

Recalling further the resolutions and guidelines adopted by consensus by the General Assembly and the Disarmament Commission relating to confidence-building measures and their implementation at the global, regional and subregional levels,

Considering the importance and effectiveness of confidence-building measures taken at the initiative and with the agreement of all States concerned and taking into account the specific characteristics of each region, since such measures can contribute to regional stability,

Convinced that resources released by disarmament, including regional disarmament, can be devoted to economic and social development and to the protection of the environment for the benefit of all peoples, in particular those of the developing countries,

Recognizing the need for meaningful dialogue among States concerned to avert conflict,

Welcoming the peace processes already initiated by States concerned to resolve their disputes through peaceful means bilaterally or through mediation, inter alia, by third parties, regional organizations or the United Nations,

Recognizing that States in some regions have already taken steps towards confidence-building measures at the bilateral, subregional and regional levels in the political and military fields, including arms control and disarmament, and noting that such confidence-building measures have improved peace and security in those regions and contributed to progress in the socio-economic conditions of their people,

Concerned that the continuation of disputes among States, particularly in the absence of an effective mechanism to resolve them through peaceful means, may contribute to the arms race and endanger the maintenance of international peace and security and the efforts of the international community to promote arms control and disarmament,

1. *Calls upon* Member States to refrain from the use or threat of use of force in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations;

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[97] CD/1064.

[98] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Comoros, Dominica, Fiji, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Pakistan, Philippines, Syrian Arab Republic, Ukraine and Uruguay.

2. *Reaffirms its commitment* to the peaceful settlement of disputes under Chapter VI of the Charter, in particular Article 33, which provides for a solution by negotiation, enquiry, mediation, conciliation, arbitration, judicial settlement, resort to regional agencies or arrangements or other peaceful means chosen by the parties;

3. *Reaffirms* the ways and means regarding confidence- and security-building measures set out in the report of the Disarmament Commission on its 1993 session;[99]

4. *Calls upon* Member States to pursue these ways and means through sustained consultations and dialogue, while at the same time avoiding actions that may hinder or impair such a dialogue;

5. *Urges* States to comply strictly with all bilateral, regional and international agreements, including arms control and disarmament agreements, to which they are party;

6. *Emphasizes* that the objective of confidence-building measures should be to help to strengthen international peace and security and to be consistent with the principle of undiminished security at the lowest level of armaments;

7. *Encourages* the promotion of bilateral and regional confidence-building measures, with the consent and participation of the parties concerned, to avoid conflict and prevent the unintended and accidental outbreak of hostilities;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session containing the views of Member States on confidence-building measures in the regional and subregional context;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled "Confidence-building measures in the regional and subregional context".

RESOLUTION 64/44

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 2 December 2009, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/391, para. 81),[100] by a recorded vote of 170 to 3, with 6 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: France, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: India, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Pakistan, Palau

64/44. Nuclear-weapon-free southern hemisphere and adjacent areas

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 51/45 B of 10 December 1996, 52/38 N of 9 December 1997, 53/77 Q of 4 December 1998, 54/54 L of 1 December 1999, 55/33 I of 20 November 2000, 56/24 G of 29 November 2001, 57/73 of 22 November 2002, 58/49 of 8 December 2003, 59/85 of 3 December 2004, 60/58 of 8 December 2005, 61/69 of 6 December 2006, 62/35 of 5 December 2007 and 63/65 of 2 December 2008,

Recalling also the adoption by the Disarmament Commission at its 1999 substantive session of a text entitled "Establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones on the basis of arrangements freely arrived at among the States of the region concerned",[101]

Determined to pursue the total elimination of nuclear weapons,

Determined also to continue to contribute to the prevention of the proliferation of nuclear weapons in all its aspects and to the process of general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control, in particular in the field of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction, with a view to strengthening international peace and security, in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

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[99] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 42* (A/48/42), annex II, sect. III.A.

[100] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Bangladesh, Belize, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Chile, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Fiji, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Indonesia, Jamaica, Kenya, Mexico, Mongolia, New Zealand, Nigeria, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Singapore, South Africa, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Zambia.

[101] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 42* (A/54/42), annex I.

Recalling the provisions on nuclear-weapon-free zones of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, the first special session devoted to disarmament,[102]

Stressing the importance of the treaties of Tlatelolco,[103] Rarotonga,[104] Bangkok[105] and Pelindaba[106] establishing nuclear-weapon-free zones, as well as the Antarctic Treaty,[107] to, inter alia, achieve a world entirely free of nuclear weapons,

Noting the adoption of the Declaration of the first Conference of States Parties and Signatories to Treaties that Establish Nuclear-Weapon-Free-Zones, held in Tlatelolco, Mexico, from 26 to 28 April 2005,[108] where nuclear-weapon-free-zone States met for the purpose of strengthening the nuclear-weapon-free zone regime and contributing to the disarmament and the non-proliferation processes, and in particular to analyse ways of cooperating that could contribute to achieving the universal goal of a nuclear-weapon-free world,

Underlining the value of enhancing cooperation among the nuclear-weapon-free-zone treaty members by means of mechanisms such as joint meetings of States parties, signatories and observers to those treaties, and in that regard, notes with satisfaction the meeting of focal points of nuclear-weapon-free zones and Mongolia, held in Ulaanbaatar on 27 and 28 April 2009,

Reaffirming the applicable principles and rules of international law relating to the freedom of the high seas and the rights of passage through maritime space, including those of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea,[109]

1. *Welcomes* the continued contribution that the Antarctic Treaty[107] and the treaties of Tlatelolco,[103] Rarotonga,[104] Bangkok[105] and Pelindaba[106] are making towards freeing the southern hemisphere and adjacent areas covered by those treaties from nuclear weapons;

2. *Notes with satisfaction* that all nuclear-weapon-free zones in the southern hemisphere and adjacent areas are now in force;

3. *Welcomes* the ratification by all original parties of the Treaty of Rarotonga, and calls upon eligible States to adhere to the Treaty and the protocols thereto;

4. *Also welcomes* the entry into force, on 15 July 2009, of the Treaty of Pelindaba, which establishes a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Africa;

5. *Calls upon* all concerned States to continue to work together in order to facilitate adherence to the protocols to nuclear-weapon-free zone treaties by all relevant States that have not yet adhered to them;

6. *Urges* all relevant States to cooperate in resolving outstanding issues with a view to the full implementation of the Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia, which entered into force on 21 March 2009;

7. *Welcomes* the steps taken to conclude further nuclear-weapon-free-zone treaties on the basis of arrangements freely arrived at among the States of the region concerned, and calls upon all States to consider all relevant proposals, including those reflected in its resolutions on the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones in the Middle East and South Asia;

8. *Affirms its conviction* of the important role of nuclear-weapon-free zones in strengthening the nuclear non-proliferation regime and in extending the areas of the world that are nuclear-weapon-free, and, with particular reference to the responsibilities of the nuclear-weapon States, calls upon all States to support the process of nuclear disarmament and to work for the total elimination of all nuclear weapons;

9. *Welcomes* the progress made on increased collaboration within and between zones at the first Conference of States Parties and Signatories to Treaties that Establish Nuclear-Weapon-Free-Zones, held in Tlatelolco, Mexico, from 26 to 28 April 2005, at which States reaffirmed their need to cooperate in order to achieve their common objectives, and looks forward to the second Conference planned for 2010, which aims to further develop this collaboration;

10. *Congratulates* the States parties and signatories to the treaties of Tlatelolco, Rarotonga, Bangkok and Pelindaba, as well as Mongolia, for their efforts to pursue the common goals envisaged in those treaties and to promote the nuclear-weapon-free status of the southern hemisphere and adjacent areas, and calls upon them to explore and implement further ways and means of cooperation among themselves and their treaty agencies;

11. *Encourages* the competent authorities of the nuclear-weapon-free-zone treaties to provide assistance to the States parties and signatories to those treaties so as to facilitate the accomplishment of the goals;

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[102] Resolution S-10/2.

[103] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 634, No. 9068.

[104] See *The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook*, vol. 10: 1985 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.86.IX.7), appendix VII.

[105] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1981, No. 33873.

[106] A/50/426, annex.

[107] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 402, No. 5778.

[108] A/60/121, annex III.

[109] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1833, No. 31363.

12. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled "Nuclear-weapon-free southern hemisphere and adjacent areas".

RESOLUTION 64/45

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 2 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/391, para. 81)[110]

64/45. Prohibition of the dumping of radioactive wastes

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind resolutions CM/Res.1153 (XLVIII) of 1988[111] and CM/Res.1225 (L) of 1989,[112] adopted by the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity, concerning the dumping of nuclear and industrial wastes in Africa,

Welcoming resolution GC(XXXIV)/RES/530 establishing a Code of Practice on the International Transboundary Movement of Radioactive Waste, adopted on 21 September 1990 by the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency at its thirty-fourth regular session,[113]

Taking note of the commitment by the participants in the Summit on Nuclear Safety and Security, held in Moscow on 19 and 20 April 1996, to ban the dumping at sea of radioactive wastes,[114]

Considering its resolution 2602 C (XXIV) of 16 December 1969, in which it requested the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament,[115] inter alia, to consider effective methods of control against the use of radiological methods of warfare,

Aware of the potential hazards underlying any use of radioactive wastes that would constitute radiological warfare and its implications for regional and international security, in particular for the security of developing countries,

Recalling all its resolutions on the matter since its forty-third session in 1988, including its resolution 51/45 J of 10 December 1996,

Recalling also resolution GC(45)/RES/10 adopted by consensus on 21 September 2001 by the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency at its forty-fifth regular session,[116] in which States shipping radioactive materials are invited to provide, as appropriate, assurances to concerned States, upon their request, that the national regulations of the shipping State take into account the Agency's transport regulations and to provide them with relevant information relating to the shipment of such materials; the information provided should in no case be contradictory to the measures of physical security and safety,

Welcoming the adoption at Vienna, on 5 September 1997, of the Joint Convention on the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management,[117] as recommended by the participants in the Summit on Nuclear Safety and Security,

Noting with satisfaction that the Joint Convention entered into force on 18 June 2001,

Noting that the first Review Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Joint Convention on the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management was convened in Vienna from 3 to 14 November 2003,

Desirous of promoting the implementation of paragraph 76 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, the first special session devoted to disarmament,[118]

1. *Takes note* of the part of the report of the Conference on Disarmament relating to radiological weapons;[119]

2. *Expresses grave concern* regarding any use of nuclear wastes that would constitute radiological warfare and have grave implications for the national security of all States;

3. *Calls upon* all States to take appropriate measures with a view to preventing any dumping of nuclear or radioactive wastes that would infringe upon the sovereignty of States;

4. *Requests* the Conference on Disarmament to take into account, in the negotiations for a convention on the

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[110] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Dominican Republic, Montenegro, and Nigeria (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States).

[111] See A/43/398, annex I.

[112] See A/44/603, annex I.

[113] See International Atomic Energy Agency, *Resolutions and Other Decisions of the General Conference, Thirty-fourth Regular Session, 17–21 September 1990* (GC(XXXIV)/RESOLUTIONS (1990)).

[114] A/51/131, annex I, para. 20.

[115] The Conference of the Committee on Disarmament became the Committee on Disarmament as from the tenth special session of the General Assembly. The Committee on Disarmament was redesignated the Conference on Disarmament as from 7 February 1984.

[116] See International Atomic Energy Agency, *Resolutions and Other Decisions of the General Conference, Forty-fifth Regular Session, 17–21 September 2001* (GC(45)/RES/DEC(2001)).

[117] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2153, No. 37605.

[118] Resolution S-10/2.

[119] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/64/27), chap. III, sect. E.

prohibition of radiological weapons, radioactive wastes as part of the scope of such a convention;

5. *Also requests* the Conference on Disarmament to intensify efforts towards an early conclusion of such a convention and to include in its report to the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session the progress recorded in the negotiations on this subject;

6. *Takes note* of resolution CM/Res.1356 (LIV) of 1991, adopted by the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity,[120] on the Bamako Convention on the Ban on the Import of Hazardous Wastes into Africa and on the Control of Their Transboundary Movements within Africa;

7. *Expresses the hope* that the effective implementation of the International Atomic Energy Agency Code of Practice on the International Transboundary Movement of Radioactive Waste will enhance the protection of all States from the dumping of radioactive wastes on their territories;

8. *Appeals* to all Member States that have not yet taken the necessary steps to become party to the Joint Convention on the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management[117] to do so as soon as possible;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-sixth session the item entitled "Prohibition of the dumping of radioactive wastes".

RESOLUTION 64/46

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 2 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/391, para. 81)[121]

64/46. Implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions on the subject of chemical weapons, in particular resolution 63/48 of 2 December 2008, adopted without a vote, in which it noted with appreciation the ongoing work to achieve the objective and purpose of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction,[122]

Determined to achieve the effective prohibition of the development, production, acquisition, transfer, stockpiling and use of chemical weapons and their destruction,

Noting with satisfaction that, since the adoption of resolution 63/48, four additional States have acceded to the Convention, bringing the total number of States parties to the Convention to one hundred and eighty-eight,

Reaffirming the importance of the outcome of the Second Special Session of the Conference of the States Parties to Review the Operation of the Chemical Weapons Convention (hereinafter "the Second Review Conference"), including the consensus final report,[123] which addressed all aspects of the Convention and made important recommendations on its continued implementation,

Emphasizing that the Second Review Conference welcomed the fact that, eleven years after its entry into force, the Convention remains a unique multilateral agreement banning an entire category of weapons of mass destruction in a non-discriminatory and verifiable manner under strict and effective international control,

1. *Emphasizes* that the universality of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction[122] is fundamental to the achievement of its objective and purpose, acknowledges progress made in the implementation of the action plan for the universality of the Convention, and calls upon all States that have not yet done so to become parties to the Convention without delay;

2. *Underlines* the fact that implementation of the Convention makes a major contribution to international peace and security through the elimination of existing stockpiles of chemical weapons, the prohibition of the acquisition or use of chemical weapons, and provides for assistance and protection in the event of use, or threat of use, of chemical weapons and for international cooperation for peaceful purposes in the field of chemical activities;

3. *Stresses* the importance to the Convention that all possessors of chemical weapons, chemical weapons production facilities or chemical weapons development facilities, including previously declared possessor States, should be among the States parties to the Convention, and welcomes progress to that end;

4. *Reaffirms* the obligation of the States parties to the Convention to destroy chemical weapons and to destroy or convert chemical weapons production facilities within the time limits provided for by the Convention;

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[120] See A/46/390, annex I.

[121] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Poland.

[122] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1974, No. 33757.

[123] See Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, document RC-2/4.

5. *Stresses* that the full and effective implementation of all provisions of the Convention, including those on national implementation (article VII) and assistance and protection (article X), constitutes an important contribution to the efforts of the United Nations in the global fight against terrorism in all its forms and manifestations;

6. *Notes* that the effective application of the verification system builds confidence in compliance with the Convention by States parties;

7. *Stresses* the importance of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons in verifying compliance with the provisions of the Convention as well as in promoting the timely and efficient accomplishment of all its objectives;

8. *Urges* all States parties to the Convention to meet in full and on time their obligations under the Convention and to support the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons in its implementation activities;

9. *Welcomes* progress made in the national implementation of article VII obligations, commends the States parties and the Technical Secretariat for assisting other States parties, on request, with the implementation of the follow-up to the plan of action regarding article VII obligations, and urges States parties that have not fulfilled their obligations under article VII to do so without further delay, in accordance with their constitutional processes;

10. *Emphasizes* the continuing relevance and importance of the provisions of article X of the Convention, and welcomes the activities of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons in relation to assistance and protection against chemical weapons;

11. *Reaffirms* that the provisions of the Convention shall be implemented in a manner that avoids hampering the economic or technological development of States parties and international cooperation in the field of chemical activities for purposes not prohibited under the Convention, including the international exchange of scientific and technical information, and chemicals and equipment for the production, processing or use of chemicals for purposes not prohibited under the Convention;

12. *Emphasizes* the importance of article XI provisions relating to the economic and technological development of States parties, recalls that the full, effective and non-discriminatory implementation of those provisions contributes to universality, and also reaffirms the undertaking of the States parties to foster international cooperation for peaceful purposes in the field of chemical activities of the States parties and the importance of that cooperation and its contribution to the promotion of the Convention as a whole;

13. *Notes with appreciation* the ongoing work of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons to achieve the objective and purpose of the Convention, to ensure the full implementation of its provisions, including those for international verification of compliance with it, and to provide a forum for consultation and cooperation among States parties, and also notes with appreciation the substantial contribution of the Technical Secretariat and the outgoing Director-General, Rogelio Pfirter, whose mandate expires in July 2010, to the continued development and success of the Organization;

14. *Welcomes* the cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons within the framework of the Relationship Agreement between the United Nations and the Organization, in accordance with the provisions of the Convention;

15. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled "Implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction".

RESOLUTION 64/47

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 2 December 2009, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/391, para. 81),[124] by a recorded vote of 171 to 2, with 8 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania,

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[124] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Albania, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, Iraq, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Micronesia (Federated States of), Montenegro, Mozambique, Nepal, Netherlands, Norway, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Swaziland, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Democratic People's Republic of Korea, India

Abstaining: Bhutan, China, Cuba, France, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Israel, Myanmar, Pakistan

64/47. Renewed determination towards the total elimination of nuclear weapons

The General Assembly,

Recalling the need for all States to take further practical steps and effective measures towards the total elimination of nuclear weapons, with a view to achieving a peaceful and safe world, without nuclear weapons, and renewing the determination to do so,

Noting that the ultimate objective of the efforts of States in the disarmament process is general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control,

Recalling its resolution 63/73 of 2 December 2008,

Convinced that every effort should be made to avoid nuclear war and nuclear terrorism,

Reaffirming the crucial importance of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[125] as the cornerstone of the international nuclear non-proliferation regime and an essential foundation for the pursuit of nuclear disarmament and for the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, welcoming the results of the third session of the Preparatory Committee for the Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons to be held in 2010, the year of the sixty-fifth anniversary of the atomic bombings in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Japan, and noting the importance of achieving the success of the Review Conference,

Recalling the decisions and the resolution of the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[126] and the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty,[127]

Recognizing that the enhancement of international peace and security and the promotion of nuclear disarmament are mutually reinforcing,

Reaffirming that further advancement in nuclear disarmament will contribute to consolidating the international regime for nuclear non-proliferation, which is, inter alia, essential to international peace and security,

Welcoming the recent global momentum of nuclear disarmament towards a world without nuclear weapons, which has been strengthened by concrete proposals and initiatives from political leaders of Member States, in particular by the Russian Federation and the United States of America, which currently together hold most of the nuclear weapons in the world,

Welcoming also the United Nations Security Council Summit on Nuclear Non-proliferation and Nuclear Disarmament, held on 24 September 2009, which confirmed the vision for a world without nuclear weapons,

Expressing deep concern regarding the growing dangers posed by the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, inter alia, nuclear weapons, including that caused by proliferation networks,

Recognizing the importance of implementing Security Council resolution 1718 (2006) of 14 October 2006 with regard to the nuclear test proclaimed by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on 9 October 2006 and Council resolution 1874 (2009) of 12 June 2009 with regard to the nuclear test conducted by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on 25 May 2009, while calling upon the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to return immediately and without preconditions to the Six-Party Talks, and reiterating strong support for the early resumption of the Talks,

1. *Reaffirms* the importance of all States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[125] complying with their obligations under all the articles of the Treaty;

2. *Stresses* the importance of an effective Treaty review process, and calls upon all States parties to the Treaty to work together so that the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons can successfully strengthen the Treaty regime and can establish effective and practical measures in all the Treaty's three pillars;

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[125] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

[126] See *1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document, Part I* (NPT/CONF.1995/32 (Part I) and Corr.2), annex.

[127] *2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vols. I-III (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Parts I-IV)).

3. *Reaffirms* the importance of the universality of the Treaty, and calls upon States not parties to the Treaty to accede to it as non-nuclear-weapon States without delay and without conditions and, pending their accession to the Treaty, to adhere to its terms as well as to take practical steps in support of the Treaty;

4. *Encourages* further steps leading to nuclear disarmament, in accordance with article VI of the Treaty, including deeper reductions in all types of nuclear weapons, and emphasizes the importance of applying the principles of irreversibility and verifiability, as well as increased transparency, in a way that promotes international stability and undiminished security for all, in the process of working towards the elimination of nuclear weapons;

5. *Calls upon* all nuclear-weapon States to undertake reductions of nuclear weapons in a transparent manner, and invites all nuclear-weapon States to agree on transparency and confidence-building measures, while noting in this regard the increased transparency demonstrated by nuclear-weapon States on their nuclear arsenals, including the current number of their nuclear warheads;

6. *Encourages* the Russian Federation and the United States of America to fully implement the obligations under the Treaty on Strategic Offensive Reductions[128] and to undertake further steps in nuclear disarmament with greater transparency, including the conclusion of a legally binding successor to the Treaty on the Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms (START I),[129] which is due to expire in December 2009, while welcoming the progress that has been made recently;

7. *Encourages* States to continue to pursue efforts, within the framework of international cooperation, contributing to the reduction of nuclear-weapons-related materials;

8. *Calls upon* the nuclear-weapon States to take measures to reduce the risk of an accidental or unauthorized launch of nuclear weapons and to also consider further reducing the operational status of nuclear weapons systems in ways that promote international stability and security;

9. *Stresses* the necessity of a diminishing role for nuclear weapons in security policies to minimize the risk that these weapons will ever be used and to facilitate the process of their total elimination, in a way that promotes international stability and based on the principle of undiminished security for all;

10. *Urges* all States that have not yet done so to sign and ratify the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty[130] at the earliest opportunity with a view to its early entry into force and universalization, stresses the importance of maintaining existing moratoriums on nuclear-weapon test explosions or any other nuclear explosions pending the entry into force of the Treaty, and reaffirms the importance of the continued development of the Treaty verification regime, including the international monitoring system, which will be required to provide assurance of compliance with the Treaty;

11. *Welcomes* the adoption by the Conference on Disarmament of a programme of work for its 2009 session,[131] and calls upon the Conference to start its substantive work when it convenes in January 2010, while taking into due consideration the increasing global momentum in favour of nuclear disarmament as well as progress and active engagement in deliberations at the Conference;

12. *Calls for* the immediate commencement of negotiations on a fissile material cut-off treaty at the 2010 session of the Conference on Disarmament and its early conclusion, and calls upon all nuclear-weapon States and States not parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons to declare and maintain moratoriums on the production of fissile material for any nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices pending the entry into force of the treaty;

13. *Calls upon* all States to redouble their efforts to prevent and curb the proliferation of nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery;

14. *Stresses* the importance of preventing nuclear terrorism, and encourages every effort to secure all vulnerable nuclear and radiological material;

15. *Also stresses* the importance of further efforts for non-proliferation, including the universalization of the comprehensive safeguards agreements of the International Atomic Energy Agency to include States which have not yet adopted and implemented such an agreement, while also strongly encouraging further works for achieving the universalization of the Model Protocol Additional to the Agreement(s) between State(s) and the International Atomic Energy Agency for the Application of Safeguards approved by the Board of Governors of the Agency on 15 May 1997,[132] and the full implementation of relevant Security Council resolutions, including resolution 1540 (2004) of 28 April 2004;

16. *Encourages* all States to undertake concrete activities to implement, as appropriate, the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations study on disarmament and non-proliferation education, submitted to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh

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[128] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2350, No. 42195.

[129] *The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook*, vol. 16: 1991 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.92.IX.1), appendix II.

[130] See resolution 50/245.

[131] See CD/1864.

[132] International Atomic Energy Agency, INFCIRC/540 (Corrected).

session,[133] and to voluntarily share information on efforts they have been undertaking to that end;

17. *Commends and further encourages* the constructive role played by civil society, including the International Commission on Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament, in promoting nuclear non-proliferation and nuclear disarmament;

18. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled "Renewed determination towards the total elimination of nuclear weapons".

RESOLUTION 64/48

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 2 December 2009, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/391, para. 81),[134] by a recorded vote of 151 to 1, with 20 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Zambia

Against: Zimbabwe

Abstaining: Bahrain, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Cuba, Egypt, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kuwait, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen

64/48. The arms trade treaty

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, and reaffirming its respect for and commitment to international law,

Recalling its resolutions 46/36 L of 9 December 1991, 51/45 N of 10 December 1996, 51/47 B of 10 December 1996, 56/24 V of 24 December 2001, 60/69 and 60/82 of 8 December 2005, 61/89 of 6 December 2006 and 63/240 of 24 December 2008,

Recognizing that arms control, disarmament and non-proliferation are essential for the maintenance of international peace and security,

Reaffirming the inherent right of all States to individual or collective self-defence in accordance with Article 51 of the Charter,

Recalling its commitment to the principles of political independence, sovereign equality and territorial integrity of all States, and acknowledging that peace and security, development and human rights are the foundations for collective security,

Acknowledging the right of all States to manufacture, import, export, transfer and retain conventional arms for self-defence and security needs and in order to participate in peace support operations,

Acknowledging also the right of States to regulate internal transfers of arms and national ownership, including through national constitutional protections on private ownership, exclusively within their territory,

Recalling the obligations of all States to fully comply with arms embargoes decided by the Security Council in accordance with the Charter,

Reaffirming its respect for international law, including international human rights law and international humanitarian law, and the rights and responsibilities of every State under the Charter,

Noting and encouraging relevant initiatives undertaken at the international, regional and subregional levels between States, including those of the United Nations,

Taking note of the role played by non-governmental organizations and civil society to enhance cooperation, improve information exchange and transparency and assist States in implementing confidence-building measures in the field of responsible arms trade,

Recognizing that the absence of commonly agreed international standards for the transfer of conventional arms that address, inter alia, the problems relating to the unregulated trade of conventional arms and their diversion to the illicit market is a contributory factor to armed conflict, the displacement of people, organized crime and terrorism, thereby undermining peace, reconciliation, safety, security, stability and sustainable social and economic development,

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[133] [illegible]

[134] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Argentina, Australia, Costa Rica, Finland, Japan, Kenya and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Acknowledging the growing support across all regions for concluding a legally binding instrument, negotiated on a non-discriminatory, transparent and multilateral basis, to establish the highest possible common international standards for the import, export and transfer of conventional arms, including through several regional and subregional workshops and seminars held in order to discuss the initiative launched by the General Assembly in its resolution 61/89, as well as those sponsored by the European Union and organized through the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research in different regions around the world,

Taking due note of the views expressed by Member States on the feasibility, scope and draft parameters for a comprehensive, legally binding instrument establishing common international standards for the import, export and transfer of conventional arms, submitted to the Secretary-General at his request,[135]

Welcoming the report of the Group of Governmental Experts,[136] which states that, in view of the complexity of the issues of conventional arms transfers, further consideration of efforts within the United Nations to address the international trade in conventional arms is required on a step-by-step basis in an open and transparent manner to achieve, on the basis of consensus, a balance that will provide benefit to all, with the principles of the Charter at the centre of such efforts,

Mindful of the need to prevent the diversion of conventional arms, including small arms and light weapons, from the legal to the illicit market,

1. *Calls upon* all States to implement, on a national basis, the relevant recommendations contained in section VII of the report of the Group of Governmental Experts,[136] recommends that all States carefully consider how to achieve such implementation in order to ensure that their national import and export control systems are of the highest possible standard, and urges those States in a position to do so to render assistance in this regard upon request;

2. *Endorses* the report of the Open-ended Working Group[137] established by the General Assembly in its resolution 63/240 to further consider those elements in the report of the Group of Governmental Experts where consensus could be developed for their inclusion in an eventual legally binding treaty on the import, export and transfer of conventional arms, which provides a balance giving benefit to all, with the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and other existing international obligations at the centre of such considerations;

3. *Stresses* the need, as was underlined by consensus in the Open-ended Working Group, to address, inter alia, the problems relating to the unregulated trade in conventional weapons and their diversion to the illicit market, considering that such risks can fuel instability, transnational organized crime and terrorism, and that international action should be taken to address the problem;

4. *Decides*, therefore, to convene a United Nations Conference on the Arms Trade Treaty to meet for four consecutive weeks in 2012 to elaborate a legally binding instrument on the highest possible common international standards for the transfer of conventional arms;

5. *Also decides* that the United Nations Conference on the Arms Trade Treaty will be undertaken in an open and transparent manner, on the basis of consensus, to achieve a strong and robust treaty;

6. *Further decides* to consider the remaining sessions of the Open-ended Working Group in 2010 and 2011 as a preparatory committee for the United Nations Conference on the Arms Trade Treaty;

7. *Requests* the Preparatory Committee, at its four sessions in 2010 and 2011, to make recommendations to the United Nations Conference on the Arms Trade Treaty on the elements that would be needed to attain an effective and balanced legally binding instrument on the highest possible common international standards for the transfer of conventional arms, bearing in mind the views and recommendations expressed in the replies of Member States[135] and those contained in the report of the Group of Governmental Experts[136] and the report of the Open-ended Working Group,[137] and to present a report containing those elements to the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session;

8. *Decides* to establish a fifth session of the Preparatory Committee in 2012 of up to three days' duration to decide on all relevant procedural matters, including the composition of the Bureau, the draft agenda and the submission of documents, for the United Nations Conference on the Arms Trade Treaty;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to seek the views of Member States on proposed treaty elements and other relevant issues relating to the United Nations Conference on the Arms Trade Treaty, and to submit a report to the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session;

10. *Decides* that intergovernmental organizations and specialized agencies, having received a standing invitation to participate as observers in the work of the General Assembly, may participate as observers in the sessions of the Preparatory Committee, and requests the Committee to take decisions on the

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[135] See A/62/278 (Parts I and II) and Add.1–4.

[136] See A/63/334.

[137] A/AC.277/2009/1.

modalities of attendance of non-governmental organizations at its sessions;

11. *Stresses* the need to ensure the widest possible and effective participation in the United Nations Conference on the Arms Trade Treaty in 2012;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to render the Preparatory Committee and the United Nations Conference on the Arms Trade Treaty all necessary assistance, including the provision of essential background information and relevant documents;

13. *Decides* to remain seized of the matter.

RESOLUTION 64/49

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 2 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/391, para. 81)[138]

64/49. Transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 60/66 of 8 December 2005, 61/75 of 6 December 2006, 62/43 of 5 December 2007 and 63/68 of 2 December 2008,

Reaffirming that the prevention of an arms race in outer space would avert a grave danger to international peace and security,

Conscious that further measures should be examined in the search for agreements to prevent an arms race in outer space, including the weaponization of outer space,

Recalling, in this context, its previous resolutions, including resolutions 45/55 B of 4 December 1990 and 48/74 B of 16 December 1993, which, inter alia, emphasize the need for increased transparency and confirm the importance of confidence-building measures as a means conducive to ensuring the attainment of the objective of the prevention of an arms race in outer space,

Recalling also the report of the Secretary-General of 15 October 1993 to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session, the annex to which contains the study by governmental experts on the application of confidence-building measures in outer space,[139]

Noting the constructive debate which the Conference on Disarmament held on this subject in 2009, including the views expressed by Member States,

Noting also the introduction by China and the Russian Federation at the Conference on Disarmament of the draft treaty on the prevention of the placement of weapons in outer space and of the threat or use of force against outer space objects,[140]

Noting further the presentation by the European Union of a draft code of conduct for outer space activities,

Noting the contribution of Member States which have submitted to the Secretary-General concrete proposals on international outer space transparency and confidence-building measures pursuant to paragraph 1 of resolution 61/75, paragraph 2 of resolution 62/43 and paragraph 2 of resolution 63/68,

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General containing concrete proposals from Member States on international outer space transparency and confidence-building measures;[141]

2. *Invites* all Member States to continue to submit to the Secretary-General concrete proposals on international outer space transparency and confidence-building measures in the interest of maintaining international peace and security and promoting international cooperation and the prevention of an arms race in outer space;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session a final report with an annex containing concrete proposals from Member States on international outer space transparency and confidence-building measures pursuant to resolutions 61/75, 62/43, 63/68 and the present resolution;

4. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled "Transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities".

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[138] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Armenia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Chile, China, Comoros, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, El Salvador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malta, Mongolia, Myanmar, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Pakistan, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Viet Nam.

[139] A/48/305 and Corr.1.

[140] See CD/1839.

[141] A/62/114 and Add.1, A/63/136 and Add.1 and A/64/138 and Add.1.

RESOLUTION 64/50

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 2 December 2009, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/391, para. 81),[142] by a recorded vote of 180 to none, with no abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: None

Abstaining: None

64/50. The illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 63/72 of 2 December 2008 as well as all previous resolutions entitled "The illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects", including resolution 56/24 V of 24 December 2001,

Emphasizing the importance of the continued and full implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, adopted by the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects,[143]

Emphasizing also the importance of the continued and full implementation of the International Instrument to Enable States to Identify and Trace, in a Timely and Reliable Manner, Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons (the International Tracing Instrument),[144]

Recalling the commitment of States to the Programme of Action as the main framework for measures within the activities of the international community to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects,

Underlining the need for States to enhance their efforts to build national capacity for the effective implementation of the Programme of Action and the International Tracing Instrument,

Welcoming the early designation of Mexico as the Chair of the fourth biennial meeting of States to consider the implementation of the Programme of Action,

Welcoming also the efforts by Member States to submit on a voluntary basis, national reports on their implementation of the Programme of Action,

Bearing in mind the importance of regular national reporting, which could greatly facilitate the rendering of international cooperation and assistance to affected States,

Noting the analysis of national reports prepared for the biennial meetings of States to consider the implementation of the Programme of Action by the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research,

Taking into account the importance of regional approaches to the implementation of the Programme of Action,

Noting with satisfaction regional and subregional efforts being undertaken in support of the implementation of the Programme of Action, and commending the progress that has already been made in this regard, including tackling both supply and demand factors that are relevant to addressing the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons,

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[142] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Albania, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Central African Republic, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Gabon, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mali, Malta, Morocco, Netherlands, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Uruguay.

[143] See *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, New York, 9-20 July 2001* (A/CONF.192/15), chap. IV, para. 24.

[144] A/60/88 and Corr.2, annex; see also decision 60/519.

Welcoming the holding of such regional meetings in Australia, Nepal, Peru and Rwanda,

Recognizing that illicit brokering in small arms and light weapons is a serious problem that the international community should address urgently,

Recognizing also the efforts undertaken by non-governmental organizations in the provision of assistance to States for the implementation of the Programme of Action,

Welcoming the coordinated efforts within the United Nations to implement the Programme of Action, including through developing the Programme of Action Implementation Support System, which forms an integrated clearing house for international cooperation and assistance for capacity-building in the area of small arms and light weapons,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution 63/72,[145]

1. *Underlines* the fact that the issue of the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects requires concerted efforts at the national, regional and international levels to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit manufacture, transfer and circulation of small arms and light weapons and that their uncontrolled spread in many regions of the world has a wide range of humanitarian and socio-economic consequences and poses a serious threat to peace, reconciliation, safety, security, stability and sustainable development at the individual, local, national, regional and international levels;

2. *Encourages* all initiatives, including those of the United Nations, other international organizations, regional and subregional organizations, non-governmental organizations and civil society, for the successful implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects,[143] and calls upon all Member States to contribute towards the continued implementation of the Programme of Action at the national, regional and global levels;

3. *Encourages* States to implement the recommendations contained in the report of the Group of Governmental Experts established pursuant to resolution 60/81 to consider further steps to enhance international cooperation in preventing, combating and eradicating illicit brokering in small arms and light weapons;[146]

4. *Recalls* its endorsement of the report adopted at the third biennial meeting of States to consider the implementation of the Programme of Action, and encourages all States to implement the measures highlighted in the section of the report entitled "The way forward";[147]

5. *Encourages* all efforts to build national capacity for the effective implementation of the Programme of Action, including those highlighted in the report of the third biennial meeting of States;

6. *Decides* that, in conformity with the follow-up to the Programme of Action, the fourth biennial meeting of States to consider the national, regional and global implementation of the Programme of Action shall be held in New York from 14 to 18 June 2010;

7. *Recalls* that the meeting of States to consider the implementation of the International Instrument to Enable States to Identify and Trace, in a Timely and Reliable Manner, Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons[144] shall be held within the framework of the biennial meeting of States;

8. *Encourages* States at the fourth biennial meeting of States to promote substantive discussions on possible practical measures by sharing lessons learned in the implementation of practical measures highlighted in the report of the third biennial meeting of States;

9. *Encourages* States, as appropriate and where applicable, to develop common positions on issues relevant to the implementation of the Programme of Action and to present such common positions to the fourth biennial meeting of States;

10. *Encourages* States that have not yet done so to submit their national reports and, for those in a position to do so, to use the reporting template prepared by the United Nations Development Programme, and to include therein information on progress made in the implementation of the measures highlighted in the report of the third biennial meeting of States;

11. *Encourages* States to also submit, well in advance of the fourth biennial meeting of States, their national reports on the implementation of the International Tracing Instrument;

12. *Calls upon* all States to implement the International Tracing Instrument by, inter alia, including in their national reports the name and contact information of the national points of contact and information on national marking practices used to indicate country of manufacture and/or country of import, as applicable;

13. *Encourages* States, on a voluntary basis, to make increasing use of their national reports as another tool for communicating assistance needs and information on the resources and mechanisms available to address such needs, and encourages States in a position to render such assistance to make use of these national reports;

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[145] See A/64/173.

[146] See A/62/163 and Corr.1.

[147] See A/CONF.192/BMS/2008/3.

14. *Also encourages* States to identify, in cooperation with the Chair-designate, well in advance of the fourth biennial meeting of States, priority issues or topics of relevance in the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects, including their implementation challenges and opportunities, as well as any follow-up to the third biennial meeting of States;

15. *Recalls* its decision to convene an open-ended meeting of governmental experts for a period of one week, no later than in 2011, to address key implementation challenges and opportunities relating to particular issues and themes, including international cooperation and assistance;

16. *Also recalls* its decision to convene a conference to review progress made in the implementation of the Programme of Action, for a period of two weeks in New York, no later than in 2012;

17. *Encourages* interested States and international, regional and other relevant organizations in a position to do so, to convene regional meetings to consider and advance the implementation of the Programme of Action as well as the International Tracing Instrument in preparation for the fourth biennial meeting of States;

18. *Encourages* States to make use of the Programme of Action Implementation Support System and the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research clearing house for matching assistance needs with potential donors as additional tools to facilitate global action on small arms and light weapons;

19. *Emphasizes* the need to facilitate the implementation at the national level of the Programme of Action through the strengthening of national coordination agencies or bodies and institutional infrastructure;

20. *Also emphasizes* the fact that initiatives by the international community with respect to international cooperation and assistance remain essential and complementary to national implementation efforts, as well as to those at the regional and global levels;

21. *Recognizes* the necessity for interested States to develop effective coordination mechanisms, where they do not exist, in order to match the needs of States with existing resources to enhance the implementation of the Programme of Action and to make international cooperation and assistance more effective;

22. *Encourages* States to consider, among other mechanisms, the coherent identification of needs, priorities, national plans and programmes that may require international cooperation and assistance from States and regional and international organizations in a position to do so;

23. *Encourages* civil society and relevant organizations to strengthen their cooperation and work with States at the respective national and regional levels to achieve the implementation of the Programme of Action;

24. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

25. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled "The illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects".

RESOLUTION 64/51

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 2 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/391, para. 81)[148]

64/51. Problems arising from the accumulation of conventional ammunition stockpiles in surplus

The General Assembly,

Mindful of contributing to the process initiated within the framework of the United Nations reform to make the Organization more effective in maintaining peace and security by giving it the resources and tools it needs for conflict prevention, peaceful resolution of disputes, peacekeeping, post-conflict peacebuilding and reconstruction,

Underlining the importance of a comprehensive and integrated approach to disarmament through the development of practical measures,

Taking note of the report of the Group of Experts on the problem of ammunition and explosives,[149]

Recalling the recommendation contained in paragraph 27 of the report submitted by the Chair of the Open-ended Working Group to Negotiate an International Instrument to Enable States to Identify and Trace, in a Timely and Reliable Manner, Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons, namely, to address the issue of small arms and light weapons ammunition in a comprehensive manner as part of a separate process conducted within the framework of the United Nations,[150]

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[148] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, Congo, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malta, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Zambia.

[149] See A/54/155.

[150] A/60/88 and Corr.2.

Noting with satisfaction the work and measures pursued at the regional and subregional levels with regard to the issue of conventional ammunition,

Recalling its decision 59/515 of 3 December 2004 and its resolutions 60/74 of 8 December 2005 and 61/72 of 6 December 2006, as well as its resolution 63/61 of 2 December 2008, by which it welcomed the report of the Group of Governmental Experts established pursuant to resolution 61/72 to consider further steps to enhance cooperation with regard to the issue of conventional ammunition stockpiles in surplus[151] and decided to include the issue of conventional ammunition stockpiles in surplus in the agenda of its sixty-fourth session,

1. *Encourages* all interested States to assess, on a voluntary basis, whether, in conformity with their legitimate security needs, parts of their stockpiles of conventional ammunition should be considered to be in surplus, and recognizes that the security of such stockpiles must be taken into consideration and that appropriate controls with regard to the security and safety of stockpiles of conventional ammunition are indispensable at the national level in order to eliminate the risk of explosion, pollution or diversion;

2. *Appeals* to all interested States to determine the size and nature of their surplus stockpiles of conventional ammunition, whether they represent a security risk, their means of destruction, if appropriate, and whether external assistance is needed to eliminate this risk;

3. *Encourages* States in a position to do so to assist interested States within a bilateral framework or through international or regional organizations, on a voluntary and transparent basis, in elaborating and implementing programmes to eliminate surplus stockpiles or to improve their management;

4. *Encourages* all Member States to examine the possibility of developing and implementing, within a national, regional or subregional framework, measures to address accordingly the illicit trafficking related to the accumulation of such stockpiles;

5. *Takes note* of the replies submitted by Member States in response to the request of the Secretary-General for views regarding the risks arising from the accumulation of conventional ammunition stockpiles in surplus and regarding national ways of strengthening controls on conventional ammunition;[152]

6. *Strongly encourages* States to implement the recommendations of the report of the Group of Governmental Experts established pursuant to resolution 61/72 to consider further steps to enhance cooperation with regard to the issue of conventional ammunition stockpiles in surplus;[151]

7. *Continues to encourage* States in a position to do so to contribute, on a voluntary and transparent basis, to the development within the United Nations of technical guidelines for the stockpile management of conventional ammunition, which would be available for States to use on a voluntary basis, in order to assist States in improving their national stockpile management capacity, preventing the growth of conventional ammunition surpluses and addressing wider risk mitigation;[153]

8. *Reiterates its decision* to address the issue of conventional ammunition stockpiles in surplus in a comprehensive manner;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-sixth session the item entitled "Problems arising from the accumulation of conventional ammunition stockpiles in surplus".

RESOLUTION 64/52

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 2 December 2009, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/391, para. 81),[154] by a recorded vote of 166 to 3, with 6 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of

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[151] See A/63/182.

[152] A/61/118 and Add.1 and A/62/166 and Add.1.

[153] See A/63/182, para. 72.

[154] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Belize, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Fiji, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Malawi, Malaysia, Mexico, Mongolia, Myanmar, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Samoa, Sierra Leone, Tajikistan, Thailand, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam and Zambia.

Moldova, Romania, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Lithuania, New Zealand, Poland

Abstaining: France, Israel, Marshall Islands, Russian Federation, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

64/52. Second Conference of States Parties and Signatories to Treaties that Establish Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones and Mongolia

The General Assembly,

Recognizing the right of any group of States to conclude regional treaties in order to ensure the total absence of nuclear weapons in their respective territories, under article VII of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[155]

Recognizing also the important contribution of the treaties of Tlatelolco,[156] Rarotonga,[157] Bangkok,[158] Pelindaba[159] and Central Asia,[160] as well as the Antarctic Treaty,[161] to the achievement of the objectives of nuclear non-proliferation and nuclear disarmament,

Recalling its resolution 63/56 of 2 December 2008 on Mongolia's international security and nuclear-weapon-free status,

Urging regions that have not yet established nuclear-weapon-free zone treaties to accelerate efforts in this direction, particularly in the Middle East, through agreements freely arrived at among the States of the region concerned, in accordance with the provisions of the Final Document of the First Special Session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament[162] and the principles adopted by the United Nations Disarmament Commission in 1999,[163]

Taking note of paragraph 122 of the Final Document of the Fifteenth Summit Conference of Heads of State and Government of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, from 11 to 16 July 2009,[164] in which the Heads of State and Government stated their belief that those nuclear-weapon-free zones were positive steps and important measures towards strengthening global nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation,

Recognizing the progress made on increased collaboration within and between zones at the first Conference of States Parties and Signatories to Treaties that Establish Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones, held in Tlatelolco, Mexico, from 26 to 28 April 2005, at which States reaffirmed their need to cooperate in order to achieve their common objectives,

Recalling the adoption of the Declaration of Santiago de Chile by the Governments of the States members of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean and the States parties to the Treaty of Tlatelolco, during the nineteenth regular session of the General Conference of the Agency, held in Santiago on 7 and 8 November 2005,[165]

Recalling also the support for nuclear-weapon-free zones expressed by the Security Council summit on nuclear non-proliferation and nuclear disarmament, held on 24 September 2009, and for the convening of the second Conference of States Parties and Signatories to Treaties that Establish Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones and Mongolia, to be held in New York on 30 April 2010,

1. *Decides* to convene the second Conference of States Parties and Signatories to Treaties that Establish Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones and Mongolia in New York on 30 April 2010;

2. *Notes* that the objective of the Conference will be to consider ways and means to enhance consultations and cooperation among States parties and signatories, the treaty agencies and other interested States, with the purpose of promoting coordination and convergence in the implementation of the provisions of the treaties and in strengthening the regime of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation;

3. *Urges* the States parties and signatories to treaties that have established nuclear-weapon-free zones to develop activities of cooperation and coordination in order to promote their common objectives in the framework of the Conference;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the necessary assistance and services as may be required for the second Conference of States Parties and Signatories to Treaties that Establish Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones and Mongolia.

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[155] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

[156] Ibid., vol. 634, No. 9068.

[157] See *The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook*, vol. 10: 1985 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.86.IX.7), appendix VII.

[158] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1981, No. 33873.

[159] A/50/426, annex.

[160] Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia.

[161] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 402, No. 5778.

[162] Resolution S-10/2.

[163] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth session, Supplement No. 42* (A/54/42), annex I, sect. C.

[164] See A/63/965-S/2009/514, annex.

[165] See A/60/678.

RESOLUTION 64/53

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 2 December 2009, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/391, para. 81),[166] by a recorded vote of 111 to 45, with 19 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Fiji, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, India, Ireland, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Pakistan, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Serbia, Sweden, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan

64/53. Nuclear disarmament

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 49/75 E of 15 December 1994 on a step-by-step reduction of the nuclear threat, and its resolutions 50/70 P of 12 December 1995, 51/45 O of 10 December 1996, 52/38 L of 9 December 1997, 53/77 X of 4 December 1998, 54/54 P of 1 December 1999, 55/33 T of 20 November 2000, 56/24 R of 29 November 2001, 57/79 of 22 November 2002, 58/56 of 8 December 2003, 59/77 of 3 December 2004, 60/70 of 8 December 2005, 61/78 of 6 December 2006, 62/42 of 5 December 2007 and 63/46 of 2 December 2008 on nuclear disarmament,

Reaffirming the commitment of the international community to the goal of the total elimination of nuclear weapons and the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free world,

Bearing in mind that the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction of 1972[167] and the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction of 1993[168] have already established legal regimes on the complete prohibition of biological and chemical weapons, respectively, and determined to achieve a nuclear weapons convention on the prohibition of the development, testing, production, stockpiling, loan, transfer, use and threat of use of nuclear weapons and on their destruction, and to conclude such an international convention at an early date,

Recognizing that there now exist conditions for the establishment of a world free of nuclear weapons, and stressing the need to take concrete practical steps towards achieving this goal,

Bearing in mind paragraph 50 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, the first special session devoted to disarmament,[169] which called for the urgent negotiation of agreements for the cessation of the qualitative improvement and development of nuclear-weapon systems, and for a comprehensive and phased programme with agreed time frames, wherever feasible, for the progressive and balanced reduction of nuclear weapons and their means of delivery, leading to their ultimate and complete elimination at the earliest possible time,

Reaffirming the conviction of the States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[170] that the Treaty is a cornerstone of nuclear non-proliferation and nuclear disarmament, and the importance of the decision on strengthening the review process for the Treaty, the decision on principles and objectives for nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament, the decision on the extension of the Treaty and the resolution on the Middle East, adopted by the 1995 Review and

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[166] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brunei Darussalam, Burundi, Cambodia, Central African Republic, Comoros, Congo, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Fiji, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Philippines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Uganda, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

[167] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1015, No. 14860.

[168] Ibid., vol. 1974, No. 33757.

[169] Resolution S-10/2.

[170] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[171]

Stressing the importance of the thirteen steps for the systematic and progressive efforts to achieve the objective of nuclear disarmament leading to the total elimination of nuclear weapons, as agreed to by the States parties in the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[172]

Reiterating the highest priority accorded to nuclear disarmament in the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly and by the international community,

Reiterating its call for an early entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty,[173]

Taking note of the positive signals by the Russian Federation and the United States of America regarding their negotiations on the replacement for the Treaty on the Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms (START I),[174] which is due to expire by the end of 2009,

Urging the Russian Federation and the United States of America to conclude such negotiations urgently in order to achieve further deep cuts in their strategic and tactical nuclear weapons, and stressing that such cuts should be irreversible, verifiable and transparent,

Recalling the entry into force of the Treaty on Strategic Offensive Reductions ("the Moscow Treaty") between the United States of America and the Russian Federation[175] as a significant step towards reducing their deployed strategic nuclear weapons, while calling for further irreversible deep cuts in their nuclear arsenals,

Noting the recent positive statements by nuclear-weapon States regarding their intention to pursue actions to achieve a world free of nuclear weapons, while reaffirming the need for urgent concrete actions by nuclear-weapon States to achieve this goal within a specified framework of time, and urging them to take further measures for progress on nuclear disarmament,

Recognizing the complementarity of bilateral, plurilateral and multilateral negotiations on nuclear disarmament, and that bilateral negotiations can never replace multilateral negotiations in this respect,

Noting the support expressed in the Conference on Disarmament and in the General Assembly for the elaboration of an international convention to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, and the multilateral efforts in the Conference on Disarmament to reach agreement on such an international convention at an early date,

Recalling the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons*, issued on 8 July 1996,[176] and welcoming the unanimous reaffirmation by all Judges of the Court that there exists an obligation for all States to pursue in good faith and bring to a conclusion negotiations leading to nuclear disarmament in all its aspects under strict and effective international control,

Mindful of paragraph 102 of the Final Document of the Coordinating Bureau of the Non-Aligned Movement at its Ministerial Meeting, held in Havana from 27 to 30 April 2009,[177]

Recalling paragraph 112 and other relevant recommendations in the Final Document of the Fifteenth Summit Conference of Heads of State and Government of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, on 15 and 16 July 2009,[178] which called upon the Conference on Disarmament to establish, as soon as possible and as the highest priority, an ad hoc committee on nuclear disarmament and to commence negotiations on a phased programme for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons within a specified framework of time, including a nuclear weapons convention,

Noting the adoption of the programme of work for the 2009 session by the Conference on Disarmament on 29 May 2009,[179] after years of stalemate, while reaffirming the importance of the Conference as the sole multilateral negotiating forum on disarmament,

Reaffirming the specific mandate conferred upon the Disarmament Commission by the General Assembly, in its decision 52/492 of 8 September 1998, to discuss the subject of nuclear disarmament as one of its main substantive agenda items,

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[171] See *1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document, Part I* (NPT/CONF.1995/32 (Part I) and Corr.2), annex.

[172] See *2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vol. I (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Parts I and II)), part I, section entitled "Article VI and eighth to twelfth preambular paragraphs", para. 15.

[173] See resolution 50/245.

[174] *The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook*, vol. 16: 1991 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.92.IX.1), appendix II.

[175] See CD/1674.

[176] A/51/218, annex; see also *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons, Advisory Opinion, I.C.J. Reports 1996*, p. 226.

[177] See A/63/858.

[178] See A/63/965-S/2009/514, annex.

[179] See CD/1864.

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[180] in which Heads of State and Government resolved to strive for the elimination of weapons of mass destruction, in particular nuclear weapons, and to keep all options open for achieving this aim, including the possibility of convening an international conference to identify ways of eliminating nuclear dangers,

Reaffirming that, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, States should refrain from the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons in settling their disputes in international relations,

Seized of the danger of the use of weapons of mass destruction, particularly nuclear weapons, in terrorist acts and the urgent need for concerted international efforts to control and overcome it,

1. *Recognizes* that the time is now opportune for all the nuclear-weapon States to take effective disarmament measures to achieve the total elimination of these weapons at the earliest possible time;

2. *Reaffirms* that nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation are substantively interrelated and mutually reinforcing, that the two processes must go hand in hand and that there is a genuine need for a systematic and progressive process of nuclear disarmament;

3. *Welcomes and encourages* the efforts to establish new nuclear-weapon-free zones in different parts of the world on the basis of agreements or arrangements freely arrived at among the States of the regions concerned, which is an effective measure for limiting the further spread of nuclear weapons geographically and contributes to the cause of nuclear disarmament;

4. *Recognizes* that there is a genuine need to diminish the role of nuclear weapons in strategic doctrines and security policies to minimize the risk that these weapons will ever be used and to facilitate the process of their total elimination;

5. *Urges* the nuclear-weapon States to stop immediately the qualitative improvement, development, production and stockpiling of nuclear warheads and their delivery systems;

6. *Also urges* the nuclear-weapon States, as an interim measure, to de-alert and deactivate immediately their nuclear weapons and to take other concrete measures to reduce further the operational status of their nuclear-weapon systems, while stressing that reductions in deployments and in operational status cannot substitute for irreversible cuts in, and the total elimination of, nuclear weapons;

7. *Reiterates its call upon* the nuclear-weapon States to undertake the step-by-step reduction of the nuclear threat and to carry out effective nuclear disarmament measures with a view to achieving the total elimination of these weapons within a specified framework of time;

8. *Calls upon* the nuclear-weapon States, pending the achievement of the total elimination of nuclear weapons, to agree on an internationally and legally binding instrument on a joint undertaking not to be the first to use nuclear weapons, and calls upon all States to conclude an internationally and legally binding instrument on security assurances of non-use and non-threat of use of nuclear weapons against non-nuclear-weapon States;

9. *Urges* the nuclear-weapon States to commence plurilateral negotiations among themselves at an appropriate stage on further deep reductions of nuclear weapons as an effective measure of nuclear disarmament;

10. *Underlines* the importance of applying the principles of transparency, irreversibility and verifiability to the process of nuclear disarmament and to nuclear and other related arms control and reduction measures;

11. *Underscores* the importance of the unequivocal undertaking by the nuclear-weapon States, in the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[172] to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals leading to nuclear disarmament, to which all States parties are committed under article VI of the Treaty,[181] and the reaffirmation by the States parties that the total elimination of nuclear weapons is the only absolute guarantee against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons;[182]

12. *Calls for* the full and effective implementation of the thirteen practical steps for nuclear disarmament contained in the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference;

13. *Urges* the nuclear-weapon States to carry out further reductions of non-strategic nuclear weapons, based on unilateral initiatives and as an integral part of the nuclear arms reduction and disarmament process;

14. *Calls for* the immediate commencement of negotiations in the Conference on Disarmament on a non-discriminatory, multilateral and internationally and effectively verifiable treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices on the

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[180] See resolution 55/2.

[181] *2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vol. I (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Parts I and II)), part I, section entitled "Article VI and eighth to twelfth preambular paragraphs", para. 15:6.

[182] Ibid., section entitled "Article VII and the security of non-nuclear-weapon States", para. 2.

basis of the report of the Special Coordinator[183] and the mandate contained therein;

15. *Urges* the Conference on Disarmament to commence as early as possible its substantive work during its 2010 session, on the basis of a comprehensive and balanced programme of work that takes into consideration all the real and existing priorities in the field of disarmament and arms control, including the immediate commencement of negotiations on such a treaty with a view to their conclusion within five years;

16. *Calls for* the conclusion of an international legal instrument or instruments on adequate security assurances to non-nuclear-weapon States;

17. *Also calls for* the early entry into force and strict observance of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty;[173]

18. *Expresses its regret* that the 2005 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons was unable to achieve any substantive result and that the 2005 World Summit Outcome adopted by the General Assembly[184] failed to make any reference to nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation;

19. *Also expresses its regret* that the Conference on Disarmament was unable to establish an ad hoc committee to deal with nuclear disarmament early in 2009, as called for by the General Assembly in its resolution 63/46;

20. *Reiterates its call upon* the Conference on Disarmament to establish, as soon as possible and as the highest priority, an ad hoc committee on nuclear disarmament early in 2010, and to commence negotiations on a phased programme of nuclear disarmament leading to the total elimination of nuclear weapons within a specified framework of time;

21. *Calls for* the convening of an international conference on nuclear disarmament in all its aspects at an early date to identify and deal with concrete measures of nuclear disarmament;

22. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

23. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled "Nuclear disarmament".

RESOLUTION 64/54

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 2 December 2009, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/391, para. 81),[185] by a recorded vote of 153 to none, with 23 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: None

Abstaining: Algeria, Bahrain, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mauritania, Morocco, Myanmar, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen

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[183] CD/1299.

[184] See resolution 60/1.

[185] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Estonia, Finland, France, Gabon, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay and Zambia.

64/54. Transparency in armaments

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 46/36 L of 9 December 1991, 47/52 L of 15 December 1992, 48/75 E of 16 December 1993, 49/75 C of 15 December 1994, 50/70 D of 12 December 1995, 51/45 H of 10 December 1996, 52/38 R of 9 December 1997, 53/77 V of 4 December 1998, 54/54 O of 1 December 1999, 55/33 U of 20 November 2000, 56/24 Q of 29 November 2001, 57/75 of 22 November 2002, 58/54 of 8 December 2003, 60/226 of 23 December 2005, 61/77 of 6 December 2006 and 63/69 of 2 December 2008, entitled "Transparency in armaments",

Continuing to take the view that an enhanced level of transparency in armaments contributes greatly to confidence-building and security among States and that the establishment of the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms[186] constitutes an important step forward in the promotion of transparency in military matters,

Welcoming the consolidated report of the Secretary-General on the Register, which includes the returns of Member States for 2008,[187]

Welcoming also the response of Member States to the request contained in paragraphs 9 and 10 of resolution 46/36 L to provide data on their imports and exports of arms, as well as available background information regarding their military holdings, procurement through national production and relevant policies,

Welcoming further the inclusion by some Member States of their transfers of small arms and light weapons in their annual report to the Register as part of their additional background information,

Noting the focused discussions on transparency in armaments that took place in the Conference on Disarmament in 2009,

Noting with concern the reduction in reporting to the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms in the last two years,

Stressing that the continuing operation of the Register and its further development should be reviewed in order to secure a Register that is capable of attracting the widest possible participation,

1. *Reaffirms its determination* to ensure the effective operation of the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms,[186] as provided for in paragraphs 7 to 10 of resolution 46/36 L;

2. *Endorses* the report of the Secretary-General on the continuing operation of the Register and its further development[188] and the recommendations contained in the consensus report of the 2009 group of governmental experts;

3. *Calls upon* Member States, with a view to achieving universal participation, to provide the Secretary-General, by 31 May annually, with the requested data and information for the Register, including nil reports if appropriate, on the basis of resolutions 46/36 L and 47/52 L, the recommendations contained in paragraph 64 of the 1997 report of the Secretary-General on the continuing operation of the Register and its further development,[189] the recommendations contained in paragraph 94 of the 2000 report of the Secretary-General and the appendices and annexes thereto,[190] the recommendations contained in paragraphs 112 to 114 of the 2003 report of the Secretary-General,[191] the recommendations contained in paragraphs 123 to 127 of the 2006 report of the Secretary-General[192] and the recommendations contained in paragraphs 71 to 75 of the 2009 report of the Secretary-General;[188]

4. *Invites* Member States in a position to do so, pending further development of the Register, to provide additional information on procurement through national production and military holdings and to make use of the "Remarks" column in the standardized reporting form to provide additional information such as types or models;

5. *Also invites* Member States in a position to do so to provide additional information on transfers of small arms and light weapons on the basis of the optional standardized reporting form, as adopted by the 2006 group of governmental experts,[193] or by any other methods they deem appropriate;

6. *Reaffirms* its decision, with a view to further development of the Register, to keep the scope of and participation in the Register under review and, to that end:

(*a*) Recalls its request to Member States to provide the Secretary-General with their views on the continuing operation of the Register and its further development and on transparency measures related to weapons of mass destruction;

(*b*) Requests the Secretary-General to seek the views of Member States, including whether the absence of small arms and light weapons as a main category in the Register has limited its relevance and directly affected decisions on participation;

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[186] See resolution 46/36 L.

[187] A/64/135 and Add.1.

[188] A/64/296.

[189] A/52/316 and Corr.2.

[190] A/55/281.

[191] A/58/274.

[192] See A/61/261.

[193] Ibid., annex I.

(*c*) Requests the Secretary-General to continue to assist Member States to build capacity to submit meaningful reports, including capacity to report on small arms and light weapons;

(*d*) Requests the Secretary-General, with a view to the three-year review cycle of the Register, to ensure that sufficient resources are made available for a group of governmental experts to be convened in 2012 to review the continuing operation of the Register and its further development, taking into account the work of the Conference on Disarmament, the views expressed by Member States and the reports of the Secretary-General on the continuing operation of the Register and its further development;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to implement the recommendations contained in his 2000, 2003, 2006 and 2009 reports on the continuing operation of the Register and its further development and to ensure that sufficient resources are made available for the Secretariat to operate and maintain the Register;

8. *Invites* the Conference on Disarmament to consider continuing its work undertaken in the field of transparency in armaments;

9. *Reiterates its call upon* all Member States to cooperate at the regional and subregional levels, taking fully into account the specific conditions prevailing in the region or subregion, with a view to enhancing and coordinating international efforts aimed at increased openness and transparency in armaments;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session on progress made in implementing the present resolution;

11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-sixth session the item entitled "Transparency in armaments".

RESOLUTION 64/55

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 2 December 2009, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/391, para. 81),[194] by a recorded vote of 124 to 31, with 21 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Fiji, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Albania, Belgium, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Finland, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Liechtenstein, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Tajikistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan

64/55. Follow-up to the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons*

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 49/75 K of 15 December 1994, 51/45 M of 10 December 1996, 52/38 O of 9 December 1997, 53/77 W of 4 December 1998, 54/54 Q of 1 December 1999, 55/33 X of 20 November 2000, 56/24 S of 29 November 2001, 57/85 of 22 November 2002, 58/46 of 8 December 2003, 59/83 of 3 December 2004, 60/76 of 8 December 2005, 61/83 of 6 December 2006, 62/39 of 5 December 2007 and 63/49 of 2 December 2008,

Convinced that the continuing existence of nuclear weapons poses a threat to all humanity and that their use would have catastrophic consequences for all life on Earth, and recognizing that the only defence against a nuclear catastrophe is the total elimination of nuclear weapons and the certainty that they will never be produced again,

Reaffirming the commitment of the international community to the goal of the total elimination of nuclear weapons and the creation of a nuclear-weapon-free world,

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[194] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Bangladesh, Belize, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Central African Republic, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Guatemala, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Myanmar, Nepal, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Samoa, Senegal, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam and Zimbabwe.

Mindful of the solemn obligations of States parties, undertaken in article VI of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[195] particularly to pursue negotiations in good faith on effective measures relating to cessation of the nuclear arms race at an early date and to nuclear disarmament,

Recalling the principles and objectives for nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament adopted at the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[196]

Emphasizing the unequivocal undertaking by the nuclear-weapon States to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals leading to nuclear disarmament, adopted at the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[197]

Recalling the adoption of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty in its resolution 50/245 of 10 September 1996, and expressing its satisfaction at the increasing number of States that have signed and ratified the Treaty,

Recognizing with satisfaction that the Antarctic Treaty[198] and the treaties of Tlatelolco,[199] Rarotonga,[200] Bangkok,[201] Pelindaba[202] and Central Asia,[203] as well as Mongolia's nuclear-weapon-free status, are gradually freeing the entire southern hemisphere and adjacent areas covered by those treaties from nuclear weapons,

Stressing the importance of strengthening all existing nuclear-related disarmament and arms control and reduction measures,

Recognizing the need for a multilaterally negotiated and legally binding instrument to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the threat or use of nuclear weapons,

Reaffirming the central role of the Conference on Disarmament as the sole multilateral disarmament negotiating forum,

Emphasizing the need for the Conference on Disarmament to commence negotiations on a phased programme for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons with a specified framework of time,

Expressing its regret over the failure of the 2005 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons to reach agreement on any substantive issues,

Expressing its deep concern at the lack of progress in the implementation of the thirteen steps to implement article VI of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons agreed to at the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty,[204]

Desiring to achieve the objective of a legally binding prohibition of the development, production, testing, deployment, stockpiling, threat or use of nuclear weapons and their destruction under effective international control,

Recalling the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons*, issued on 8 July 1996,[205]

Taking note of the relevant portions of the report of the Secretary-General relating to the implementation of resolution 63/49,[206]

1. *Underlines once again* the unanimous conclusion of the International Court of Justice that there exists an obligation to pursue in good faith and bring to a conclusion negotiations leading to nuclear disarmament in all its aspects under strict and effective international control;

2. *Calls once again upon* all States immediately to fulfil that obligation by commencing multilateral negotiations leading to an early conclusion of a nuclear weapons convention prohibiting the development, production, testing, deployment, stockpiling, transfer, threat or use of nuclear weapons and providing for their elimination;

3. *Requests* all States to inform the Secretary-General of the efforts and measures they have taken on the implementation of the present resolution and nuclear disarmament, and requests the Secretary-General to apprise the General Assembly of that information at its sixty-fifth session;

4. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled "Follow-up to the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons*".

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[195] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

[196] *1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document, Part I* (NPT/CONF.1995/32 (Part I) and Corr.2), annex, decision 2.

[197] *2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vol. I (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Parts I and II)), part I, section entitled "Article VI and eighth to twelfth preambular paragraphs", para. 15:6.

[198] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 402, No. 5778.

[199] Ibid., vol. 634, No. 9068.

[200] See *The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook*, vol. 10: 1985 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.86.IX.7), appendix VII.

[201] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1981, No. 33873.

[202] A/50/426, annex.

[203] Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia.

[204] See *2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vol. I (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Parts I and II)), part I, section entitled "Article VI and eighth to twelfth preambular paragraphs", para. 15.

[205] A/51/218, annex; see also *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons, Advisory Opinion, I.C.J. Reports 1996*, p. 226.

[206] A/64/139.

RESOLUTION 64/56

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 2 December 2009, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/391, para. 81),[207] by a recorded vote of 160 to none, with 18 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: None

Abstaining: Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Israel, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Syrian Arab Republic, United States of America, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam

64/56. Implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 54/54 B of 1 December 1999, 55/33 V of 20 November 2000, 56/24 M of 29 November 2001, 57/74 of 22 November 2002, 58/53 of 8 December 2003, 59/84 of 3 December 2004, 60/80 of 8 December 2005, 61/84 of 6 December 2006, 62/41 of 5 December 2007 and 63/42 of 2 December 2008,

Reaffirming its determination to put an end to the suffering and casualties caused by anti-personnel mines, which kill or maim hundreds of people every week, mostly innocent and defenceless civilians, including children, obstruct economic development and reconstruction, inhibit the repatriation of refugees and internally displaced persons and have other severe consequences for years after emplacement,

Believing it necessary to do the utmost to contribute in an efficient and coordinated manner to facing the challenge of removing anti-personnel mines placed throughout the world and to assure their destruction,

Wishing to do the utmost in ensuring assistance for the care and rehabilitation, including the social and economic reintegration, of mine victims,

Recalling that 2009 marks the tenth anniversary of the entry into force of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction,[208]

Noting with satisfaction the work undertaken to implement the Convention and the substantial progress made towards addressing the global anti-personnel landmine problem,

Recalling the first to ninth meetings of the States parties to the Convention, held in Maputo (1999),[209] Geneva (2000),[210] Managua (2001),[211] Geneva (2002),[212] Bangkok (2003),[213] Zagreb (2005),[214] Geneva (2006),[215] the Dead Sea (2007)[216] and Geneva (2008)[217] and the First Review Conference of the States Parties to the Convention, held in Nairobi (2004),[218]

Recalling also the ninth meeting of the States parties to the Convention, held in Geneva from 24 to 28 November 2008, at which the international community monitored progress on implementation of the Convention, supported continued application of the Nairobi Action Plan 2005–2009,[219] and established priorities to achieve further progress towards ending, for all people and for all time, the suffering caused by anti-personnel mines,

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[207] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Jordan, Norway and Switzerland.

[208] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2056, No. 35597.

[209] See APLC/MSP.1/1999/1.

[210] See APLC/MSP.2/2000/1.

[211] See APLC/MSP.3/2001/1.

[212] See APLC/MSP.4/2002/1.

[213] See APLC/MSP.5/2003/5.

[214] See APLC/MSP.6/2005/5.

[215] See APLC/MSP.7/2006/5.

[216] See APLC/MSP.8/2007/6.

[217] See APLC/MSP.9/2008/5.

[218] See APLC/CONF/2004/5 and Corr.1.

[219] Ibid., part III.

Recalling further the preparatory process for the Second Review Conference of the States Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction, entitled "The Cartagena Summit on a Mine-Free World", to be held in Cartagena, Colombia, from 29 November to 4 December 2009, and the two preparatory meetings held in 2009 pursuant to the decisions of the ninth meeting of the States parties,

Noting with satisfaction that one hundred and fifty-six States have ratified or acceded to the Convention and have formally accepted the obligations of the Convention,

Emphasizing the desirability of attracting the adherence of all States to the Convention, and determined to work strenuously towards the promotion of its universalization,

Noting with regret that anti-personnel mines continue to be used in conflicts around the world, causing human suffering and impeding post-conflict development,

1. *Invites* all States that have not signed the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction[218] to accede to it without delay;

2. *Urges* all States that have signed but have not ratified the Convention to ratify it without delay;

3. *Stresses* the importance of the full and effective implementation of and compliance with the Convention, including through the continued implementation of the Nairobi Action Plan 2005–2009;[219]

4. *Urges* all States parties to provide the Secretary-General with complete and timely information as required under article 7 of the Convention in order to promote transparency and compliance with the Convention;

5. *Invites* all States that have not ratified the Convention or acceded to it to provide, on a voluntary basis, information to make global mine action efforts more effective;

6. *Renews its call upon* all States and other relevant parties to work together to promote, support and advance the care, rehabilitation and social and economic reintegration of mine victims, mine risk education programmes and the removal and destruction of anti-personnel mines placed or stockpiled throughout the world;

7. *Urges* all States to remain seized of the issue at the highest political level and, where in a position to do so, to promote adherence to the Convention through bilateral, subregional, regional and multilateral contacts, outreach, seminars and other means;

8. *Reiterates its invitation and encouragement* to all interested States, the United Nations, other relevant international organizations or institutions, regional organizations, the International Committee of the Red Cross and relevant non-governmental organizations to attend the Second Review Conference of the States Parties to the Convention, entitled "The Cartagena Summit on a Mine-Free World", at the highest possible level and, pending a decision to be taken at the Second Review Conference, to participate in the future meetings programme;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in accordance with article 11, paragraph 2, of the Convention, to undertake the preparations necessary to convene the next meeting of the States parties, pending a decision to be taken at the Second Review Conference, and on behalf of the States parties and in accordance with article 11, paragraph 4, of the Convention, to invite States not parties to the Convention, as well as the United Nations, other relevant international organizations or institutions, regional organizations, the International Committee of the Red Cross and relevant non-governmental organizations, to attend the Second Review Conference and future meetings as observers;

10. *Decides* to remain seized of the matter.

RESOLUTION 64/57

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 2 December 2009, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/391, para. 81),[220] by a recorded vote of 169 to 5, with 5 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav

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[220] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Austria, Brazil, Comoros, Costa Rica, Egypt, Fiji, Guyana, Ireland, Malta, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, South Africa and Sweden.

Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Democratic People's Republic of Korea, France, India, Israel, United States of America

Abstaining: Bhutan, Micronesia (Federated States of), Pakistan, Palau, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

64/57. Towards a nuclear-weapon-free world: accelerating the implementation of nuclear disarmament commitments

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 63/58 of 2 December 2008,

Reiterating its grave concern at the danger to humanity posed by the possibility that nuclear weapons could be used,

Noting with satisfaction the renewed interest in nuclear disarmament on the part of international leaders expressed, inter alia, during the Security Council summit on nuclear non-proliferation and nuclear disarmament held on 24 September 2009, and underlining in this regard the urgent need for concrete, transparent, verifiable and irreversible steps to realize the goal of a world free of nuclear weapons,

Reaffirming that nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation are mutually reinforcing processes requiring urgent irreversible progress on both fronts,

Recognizing the continued vital importance of the early entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty[221] to the advancement of nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation objectives, and welcoming the recent ratifications of the Treaty by Lebanon, Liberia, Malawi, Mozambique and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines,

Recalling that the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons in its final document, inter alia, reaffirmed the conviction that the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones enhances global and regional peace and security, strengthens the nuclear non-proliferation regime and contributes towards realizing the objectives of nuclear disarmament,[222]

Welcoming the entry into force, on 21 March 2009, of the Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia and the entry into force, on 15 July 2009, of the Treaty of Pelindaba,[223] which establishes a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Africa, and expressing the hope that these important steps will be followed by concerted international efforts to create nuclear-weapon-free zones in other areas in the world, especially in the Middle East,

Recalling the decisions entitled "Strengthening the review process for the Treaty", "Principles and objectives for nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament" and "Extension of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons" and the resolution on the Middle East, all of which were adopted at the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[224] and the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[225]

Recalling also the unequivocal undertaking by the nuclear-weapon States to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals, leading to nuclear disarmament, in accordance with commitments made under article VI of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[226]

Welcoming the progress towards a follow-up agreement to the Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty,[227] as reflected in recent statements made by the Presidents of the Russian Federation and of the United States of America,

Welcoming also the outcome of the third session of the Preparatory Committee for the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[228] at which the Committee adopted the provisional agenda and decisions relating to the organization of the work of the Review Conference,

Welcoming further the recent positive developments in the Conference on Disarmament, which led to the adoption of a programme of work on 29 May 2009,[229]

1. *Continues to emphasize* the central role of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[226] and its universality in achieving nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation, and calls upon all States parties to respect their obligations;

2. *Calls upon* all States to comply fully with all commitments made regarding nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation and not to act in any way that may compromise either cause or that may lead to a new nuclear arms race;

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[221] See resolution 50/245.

[222] See *2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vols. I-III (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Parts I-IV)), vol. I, part I.

[223] A/50/426, annex.

[224] See *1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document, Part I* (NPT/CONF.1995/32 (Part I) and Corr.2), annex.

[225] *2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vols. I-III (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Parts I-IV)).

[226] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

[227] *The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook*, vol. 16: 1991 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.92.IX.1), appendix II.

[228] NPT/CONF.2010/1.

[229] See CD/1864.

3. *Reaffirms* that the outcome of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[225] sets out the agreed process for systematic and progressive efforts towards nuclear disarmament, and in this regard renews its call upon the nuclear-weapon States to accelerate the implementation of the practical steps towards nuclear disarmament that were agreed upon at the 2000 Review Conference, thereby contributing to a safer world for all;

4. *Reiterates its call upon* all States parties to spare no effort to achieve the universality of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, and in this regard urges India, Israel and Pakistan to accede to the Treaty as non-nuclear-weapon States promptly and without conditions;

5. *Urges* the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to rescind its announced withdrawal from the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, to re-establish cooperation with the International Atomic Energy Agency and to rejoin the Six-Party Talks, with a view to achieving the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula in a peaceful manner;

6. *Calls upon* all Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons to spare no effort to ensure a successful and constructive outcome of the 2010 Review Conference;

7. *Stresses* that the outcome of the 2010 Review Conference should build upon the positive results reached at the 1995 and 2000 Conferences, contribute significantly to the concrete implementation of the outcomes of both Conferences, advance the objective of a nuclear-weapon-free world, strengthen the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons in all its aspects and contribute to achieving its full implementation and universality;

8. *Calls upon* all States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons to work towards the full implementation of the resolution on the Middle East adopted at the 1995 Review Conference;

9. *Calls upon* the States members of the Conference on Disarmament to pursue continued positive developments in that forum, in order to maintain the momentum that led to the adoption of a programme of work on 29 May 2009,[229] and spare no efforts to ensure an early start to the substantive work of the Conference at the beginning of its 2010 session;

10. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled "Towards a nuclear-weapon-free world: accelerating the implementation of nuclear disarmament commitments" and to review the implementation of the present resolution at that session.

RESOLUTION 64/58

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 2 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/392, para. 20)[230]

64/58. United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 60/83 of 8 December 2005, 61/90 of 6 December 2006, 62/50 of 5 December 2007 and 63/76 of 2 December 2008 regarding the maintenance and revitalization of the three United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament,

Recalling also the reports of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa,[231] the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific[232] and the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean,[233]

Reaffirming its decision, taken in 1982 at its twelfth special session, to establish the United Nations Disarmament Information Programme, the purpose of which is to inform, educate and generate public understanding and support for the objectives of the United Nations in the field of arms control and disarmament,[234]

Bearing in mind its resolutions 40/151 G of 16 December 1985, 41/60 J of 3 December 1986, 42/39 D of 30 November 1987 and 44/117 F of 15 December 1989 on the regional centres for peace and disarmament in Nepal, Peru and Togo,

Recognizing that the changes that have taken place in the world have created new opportunities as well as posed new challenges for the pursuit of disarmament, and, in this regard, bearing in mind that the regional centres for peace and disarmament can contribute substantially to understanding and cooperation among States in each particular region in the areas of peace, disarmament and development,

Noting that in paragraph 127 of the Final Document of the Fifteenth Summit Conference of Heads of State and Government of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, from 11 to 16 July 2009, the Heads of State and Government emphasized the importance of the

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[230] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Indonesia (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries).

[231] A/64/112.

[232] A/64/111.

[233] A/64/116.

[234] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twelfth Special Session, Plenary Meetings*, 1st meeting, paras. 110 and 111.

United Nations activities at the regional level to increase the stability and security of its Member States, which could be promoted in a substantive manner by the maintenance and revitalization of the three regional centres for peace and disarmament,[235]

1. *Reiterates* the importance of the United Nations activities at the regional level to advancement in disarmament and to increase the stability and security of its Member States, which could be promoted in a substantive manner by the maintenance and revitalization of the three regional centres for peace and disarmament;

2. *Reaffirms* that, in order to achieve positive results, it is useful for the three regional centres to carry out dissemination and educational programmes that promote regional peace and security that are aimed at changing basic attitudes with respect to peace and security and disarmament so as to support the achievement of the purposes and principles of the United Nations;

3. *Appeals* to Member States in each region and those that are able to do so, as well as to international governmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations, to make voluntary contributions to the regional centres in their respective regions to strengthen their activities and initiatives;

4. *Emphasizes* the importance of the activities of the Regional Disarmament Branch of the Office for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide all necessary support, within existing resources, to the regional centres in carrying out their programmes of activities;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled "United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament".

RESOLUTION 64/59

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 2 December 2009, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/392, para. 20),[236] by a recorded vote of 116 to 50, with 12 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Fiji, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Comoros, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Marshall Islands, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Serbia, Uzbekistan

64/59. Convention on the Prohibition of the Use of Nuclear Weapons

The General Assembly,

Convinced that the use of nuclear weapons poses the most serious threat to the survival of mankind,

Bearing in mind the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice of 8 July 1996 on the *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons*,[237]

Convinced that a multilateral, universal and binding agreement prohibiting the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons would contribute to the elimination of the nuclear threat and to the climate for negotiations leading to the ultimate elimination of nuclear weapons, thereby strengthening international peace and security,

Conscious that some steps taken by the Russian Federation and the United States of America towards a reduction of their nuclear weapons and the improvement in the international climate can contribute towards the goal of the complete elimination of nuclear weapons,

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[235] See A/63/965-S/2009/514, annex.

[236] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Bangladesh, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Comoros, Congo, Cuba, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Egypt, El Salvador, Fiji, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kuwait, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mauritius, Myanmar, Nepal, Nicaragua, Philippines, Sudan, Viet Nam and Zambia.

[237] A/51/218, annex; see also *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons, Advisory Opinion, I.C.J. Reports 1996*, p. 226.

Recalling that paragraph 58 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly[238] states that all States should actively participate in efforts to bring about conditions in international relations among States in which a code of peaceful conduct of nations in international affairs could be agreed upon and that would preclude the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

Reaffirming that any use of nuclear weapons would be a violation of the Charter of the United Nations and a crime against humanity, as declared in its resolutions 1653 (XVI) of 24 November 1961, 33/71 B of 14 December 1978, 34/83 G of 11 December 1979, 35/152 D of 12 December 1980 and 36/92 I of 9 December 1981,

Determined to achieve an international convention prohibiting the development, production, stockpiling and use of nuclear weapons, leading to their ultimate destruction,

Stressing that an international convention on the prohibition of the use of nuclear weapons would be an important step in a phased programme towards the complete elimination of nuclear weapons, with a specified framework of time,

Noting with regret that the Conference on Disarmament, during its 2009 session, was unable to undertake negotiations on this subject as called for in General Assembly resolution 63/75 of 2 December 2008,

1. *Reiterates its request* to the Conference on Disarmament to commence negotiations in order to reach agreement on an international convention prohibiting the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons under any circumstances;

2. *Requests* the Conference on Disarmament to report to the General Assembly on the results of those negotiations.

RESOLUTION 64/60

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 2 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/392, para. 20)[239]

64/60. United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 41/60 J of 3 December 1986, 42/39 K of 30 November 1987 and 43/76 H of 7 December 1988 on the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, with headquarters in Lima,

Recalling also its resolutions 46/37 F of 9 December 1991, 48/76 E of 16 December 1993, 49/76 D of 15 December 1994, 50/71 C of 12 December 1995, 52/220 of 22 December 1997, 53/78 F of 4 December 1998, 54/55 F of 1 December 1999, 55/34 E of 20 November 2000, 56/25 E of 29 November 2001, 57/89 of 22 November 2002, 58/60 of 8 December 2003, 59/99 of 3 December 2004, 60/84 of 8 December 2005, 61/92 of 6 December 2006, 62/49 of 5 December 2007 and 63/74 of 2 December 2008,

Recognizing that the Regional Centre has continued to provide substantive support for the implementation of regional and subregional initiatives and has intensified its contribution to the coordination of United Nations efforts towards peace and disarmament and for the promotion of economic and social development,

Reaffirming the mandate of the Regional Centre to provide, on request, substantive support for the initiatives and other activities of the Member States of the region for the implementation of measures for peace and disarmament and for the promotion of economic and social development,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[240] and expressing its appreciation for the important assistance provided by the Regional Centre to many countries in the region for the development of plans to reduce and prevent armed violence from an arms control perspective and for promoting the implementation of relevant agreements and treaties,

Emphasizing the need for the Regional Centre to develop and strengthen its activities and programmes in a comprehensive and balanced manner, in accordance with its mandate,

Recalling the report of the Group of Governmental Experts on the relationship between disarmament and development,[241] referred to in General Assembly resolution 59/78 of 3 December 2004, which is of utmost interest with regard to the role that the Regional Centre plays in promoting the issue in the region in pursuit of its mandate to promote economic and social development related to peace and disarmament,

Noting that security and disarmament issues have always been recognized as significant topics in Latin America and the Caribbean, the first inhabited region in the world to be declared a nuclear-weapon-free zone,

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[238] See resolution S-10/2.

[239] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Peru (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States).

[240] A/64/116.

[241] See A/59/119.

Welcoming the support provided by the Regional Centre to strengthening the nuclear-weapon-free zone established by the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco),[242] as well as to promoting and assisting the ratification and implementation of existing multilateral agreements related to weapons of mass destruction and to promoting peace and disarmament education projects during the period under review,

Bearing in mind the important role of the Regional Centre in promoting confidence-building measures, arms control and limitation, disarmament and development at the regional level,

Bearing in mind also the importance of information, research, education and training for peace, disarmament and development in order to achieve understanding and cooperation among States,

1. *Reiterates its strong support* for the role of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean in the promotion of United Nations activities at the regional level to strengthen peace, disarmament, stability, security and development among its member States;

2. *Expresses its satisfaction* for the activities carried out in the past year by the Regional Centre, and requests the Centre to take into account the proposals to be submitted by the countries of the region in promoting confidence-building measures, arms control and limitation, transparency, disarmament and development at the regional level;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* for the political support and financial contributions to the Regional Centre, which are essential for its continued operation;

4. *Appeals* to Member States, in particular those within the Latin American and Caribbean region, and to international governmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations to make and to increase voluntary contributions to strengthen the Regional Centre, its programme of activities and the implementation thereof;

5. *Invites* all States of the region to continue to take part in the activities of the Regional Centre, proposing items for inclusion in its programme of activities and making greater and better use of the potential of the Centre to meet the current challenges facing the international community with a view to fulfilling the aims of the Charter of the United Nations in the areas of peace, disarmament and development;

6. *Recognizes* that the Regional Centre has an important role in the promotion and development of regional initiatives agreed upon by the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean in the field of weapons of mass destruction, in particular nuclear weapons, and conventional arms, including small arms and light weapons, as well as in the relationship between disarmament and development;

7. *Encourages* the Regional Centre to further develop activities in all countries of the region in the important areas of peace, disarmament and development;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled "United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean".

RESOLUTION 64/61

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 2 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/392, para. 20)[243]

64/61. Regional confidence-building measures: activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous relevant resolutions, in particular resolution 63/78 of 2 December 2008,

Recalling also the guidelines for general and complete disarmament adopted at its tenth special session, the first special session devoted to disarmament,

Bearing in mind the establishment by the Secretary-General on 28 May 1992 of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa, the purpose of which is to encourage arms limitation, disarmament, non-proliferation and development in the subregion,

Reaffirming that the purpose of the Standing Advisory Committee is to conduct reconstruction and confidence-building activities in Central Africa among its member States, including through confidence-building and arms limitation measures,

Convinced that the resources released by disarmament, including regional disarmament, can be devoted to economic and social development and to the protection of the environment for the benefit of all peoples, in particular those of the developing countries,

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[242] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 634, No. 9068.

[243] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Angola, Benin, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Comoros, Congo, Gabon, Montenegro and Togo.

Considering the importance and effectiveness of confidence-building measures taken on the initiative and with the participation of all States concerned and taking into account the specific characteristics of each region, since such measures can contribute to regional stability and to international peace and security,

Convinced that development can be achieved only in a climate of peace, security and mutual confidence both within and among States,

Recalling the Brazzaville Declaration on Cooperation for Peace and Security in Central Africa,[244] the Bata Declaration for the Promotion of Lasting Democracy, Peace and Development in Central Africa[245] and the Yaoundé Declaration on Peace, Security and Stability in Central Africa,[246]

Bearing in mind resolutions 1196 (1998) and 1197 (1998), adopted by the Security Council on 16 and 18 September 1998 respectively, following its consideration of the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa,[247]

Emphasizing the need to strengthen the capacity for conflict prevention and peacekeeping in Africa, and welcoming the close cooperation established between the United Nations and the Economic Community of Central African States for that purpose,

1. *Reaffirms its support* for efforts aimed at promoting confidence-building measures at the regional and subregional levels in order to ease tensions and conflicts in Central Africa and to further sustainable peace, stability and development in the subregion;

2. *Reaffirms* the importance of disarmament and arms limitation programmes in Central Africa carried out by the States of the subregion with the support of the United Nations, the African Union and other international partners;

3. *Welcomes* the adoption by the States members of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa on 8 May 2009 of the Code of Conduct for the Defence and Security Forces in Central Africa[248] and the major strides made by States in the drafting of a legal instrument on the control of small arms and light weapons in Central Africa, and encourages interested countries to provide their financial support to the implementation of the "Sao Tome Initiative";

4. *Encourages* the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee to carry out the programmes of activities adopted at their ministerial meetings;

5. *Also encourages* the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee to continue their efforts to render the early-warning mechanism for Central Africa fully operational as an instrument for analysing and monitoring the political situation in the subregion within the framework of the prevention of crises and armed conflicts, and requests the Secretary-General to provide the necessary assistance for its smooth functioning;

6. *Appeals* to the international community to support the efforts undertaken by the States concerned to implement disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programmes;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to continue their assistance to the countries of Central Africa in tackling the problems of refugees and displaced persons in their territories;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to continue to provide their full assistance for the proper functioning of the Subregional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa;

9. *Welcomes* the adoption on 8 May 2009 of the Libreville Declaration calling upon States members of the Standing Advisory Committee to contribute to the Trust Fund for the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa;[249]

10. *Urges* other Member States and inter-governmental and non-governmental organizations to support the activities of the Standing Advisory Committee effectively through voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund;

11. *Expresses its satisfaction* to the Secretary-General for his support for the revitalization of the activities of the Standing Advisory Committee, and requests him to continue to provide the assistance needed to ensure the success of its regular biannual meetings;

12. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

13. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled "Regional confidence-building measures: activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa".

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[244] A/50/474, annex I.

[245] A/53/258-S/1998/763, annex II, appendix I.

[246] A/53/868-S/1999/303, annex II.

[247] A/52/871-S/1998/318.

[248] A/64/85-S/2009/288, annex II.

[249] Ibid., annex I.

RESOLUTION 64/62

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 2 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/392, para. 20)[250]

64/62. United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa

The General Assembly,

Mindful of the provisions of Article 11, paragraph 1, of the Charter of the United Nations stipulating that a function of the General Assembly is to consider the general principles of cooperation in the maintenance of international peace and security, including the principles governing disarmament and arms limitation,

Recalling its resolutions 40/151 G of 16 December 1985, 41/60 D of 3 December 1986, 42/39 J of 30 November 1987 and 43/76 D of 7 December 1988 on the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa and its resolutions 46/36 F of 6 December 1991 and 47/52 G of 9 December 1992 on regional disarmament, including confidence-building measures,

Recalling also its resolutions 48/76 E of 16 December 1993, 49/76 D of 15 December 1994, 50/71 C of 12 December 1995, 51/46 E of 10 December 1996, 52/220 of 22 December 1997, 53/78 C of 4 December 1998, 54/55 B of 1 December 1999, 55/34 D of 20 November 2000, 56/25 D of 29 November 2001, 57/91 of 22 November 2002, 58/61 of 8 December 2003, 59/101 of 3 December 2004, 60/86 of 8 December 2005, 61/93 of 6 December 2006, 62/216 of 22 December 2007 and 63/80 of 2 December 2008,

Reaffirming the role of the Regional Centre in promoting peace, security and disarmament at the regional level,

Taking into account the need to strengthen the existing cooperation between the Regional Centre and the African Union, in particular its institutions in the fields of peace, security and disarmament, as well as with relevant United Nations bodies and programmes in Africa for greater effectiveness, and considering the focus of its resolution 63/310 of 14 September 2009 on cooperation between the United Nations and the African Union, and in particular the need to address the problems related to peace and disarmament, and the communiqué adopted by the Peace and Security Council of the African Union at its two-hundredth meeting, held in Addis Ababa on 21 August 2009, in which the Council welcomes the increased collaboration between the Regional Centre and the African Union and regional organizations in the areas of peace, security and disarmament,

Recalling the report of the Secretary-General,[251] in which he stated that an increase in the Regional Centre's human and operational capacity would enable it to discharge its mandate in full and to respond more effectively to requests for assistance from African States,

Taking note of the revitalization of the Regional Centre and the progress made in covering all of Africa and widening its scope of activities related to peace and disarmament in implementation of the recommendations made by the Consultative Mechanism for the Reorganization of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa established by resolution 60/86 of 8 December 2005,[252]

Noting the timely implementation by the Secretary-General of its resolution 62/216 of 22 December 2007 concerning the future work programme of the Regional Centre, as well as its staffing and funding,

Deeply concerned that, as noted in the report of the Secretary-General,[251] despite the decision taken in Khartoum in January 2006 by the Executive Council of the African Union,[253] in which the Council called upon member States to make voluntary contributions to the Regional Centre to maintain its operations, no such funds have been received to ensure its operations,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[254]

2. *Notes* the successful conclusion of the process of revitalization of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa through the strengthening of its financial and human capacities;

3. *Notes with appreciation* the efforts of the Regional Centre to align its actions with the priorities identified in the recommendations of the Consultative Mechanism for the Reorganization of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa;[252]

4. *Welcomes* the undertaking by the Regional Centre of new initiatives and projects in the fields of security sector reform and practical disarmament measures, as detailed in the report of the Secretary-General;[254]

5. *Also welcomes* the efforts made by the Regional Centre to revitalize its activities and extend its operations to cover all of Africa, in order to respond to the evolving needs of the continent in the areas of peace, security and disarmament;

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[250] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Nigeria (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States).

[251] A/63/163.

[252] See A/62/167.

[253] A/60/693, annex II, decision EX.CL/Dec.263 (VIII).

[254] A/64/112.

6. *Urges* all States, as well as international governmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations, to make voluntary contributions to support the programmes and activities of the Regional Centre and facilitate their implementation;

7. *Urges*, in particular, States members of the African Union to make voluntary contributions to the Regional Centre's trust fund in conformity with the decision taken by the Executive Council of the African Union in Khartoum in January 2006;[253]

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to facilitate closer cooperation between the Regional Centre and the African Union, in particular in the areas of peace, security and disarmament;

9. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the necessary support to the Regional Centre for greater achievements and results;

10. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-sixth session the item entitled "United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa".

RESOLUTION 64/63

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 2 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/392, para. 20)[255]

64/63. United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 42/39 D of 30 November 1987 and 44/117 F of 15 December 1989, by which it established the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and renamed it the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific, with headquarters in Kathmandu and with the mandate of providing, on request, substantive support for the initiatives and other activities mutually agreed upon by the Member States of the Asia-Pacific region for the implementation of measures for peace and disarmament, through appropriate utilization of available resources,

Welcoming the physical operation of the Regional Centre from Kathmandu in accordance with General Assembly resolution 62/52 of 5 December 2007,

Recalling the Regional Centre's mandate of providing, on request, substantive support for the initiatives and other activities mutually agreed upon by the Member States of the Asia-Pacific region for the implementation of measures for peace and disarmament,

Expressing its appreciation to the Regional Centre for its important work in promoting confidence-building measures through the organization of meetings, conferences and workshops in the region, including conferences held on Jeju Island, Republic of Korea, from 24 to 26 November 2008 and in Niigata, Japan, from 26 to 28 August 2009,

Concerned by the report of the Secretary-General, in which he indicates that in order to be able to carry out its mandate fully and effectively, the Regional Centre needs to rely on a stable core team of skilled professional and support staff,[256]

Appreciating the timely execution by Nepal of its financial commitments for the physical operation of the Regional Centre,

1. *Welcomes* the physical operation of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific from Kathmandu in close cooperation with Member States;

2. *Expresses its gratitude* to the Government of Nepal for its cooperation and financial support, which has allowed the new office of the Regional Centre to operate from Kathmandu;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General and the Office for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat for providing necessary support with a view to ensuring the smooth operation of the Regional Centre from Kathmandu and to enabling the Centre to function effectively;

4. *Appeals* to Member States, in particular those within the Asia-Pacific region, as well as to international governmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations, to make voluntary contributions, the only resources of the Regional Centre, to strengthen the programme of activities of the Centre and the implementation thereof;

5. *Reaffirms its strong support* for the role of the Regional Centre in the promotion of United Nations activities at the regional level to strengthen peace, stability and security among its Member States;

6. *Underlines* the importance of the Kathmandu process for the development of the practice of region-wide security and disarmament dialogues;

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[255] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Australia, Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, Comoros, India, Indonesia, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Maldives, Micronesia (Federated States of), Mongolia, Myanmar, Nauru, Nepal, New Zealand, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Timor-Leste and Viet Nam.

[256] See A/64/111, para. 24.

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled "United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific".

RESOLUTION 64/64

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 2 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/393, para. 11)[257]

64/64. Report of the Conference on Disarmament

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Conference on Disarmament,[258]

Convinced that the Conference on Disarmament, as the sole multilateral disarmament negotiating forum of the international community, has the primary role in substantive negotiations on priority questions of disarmament,

Recognizing the address by the Secretary-General of the United Nations, as well as the addresses by Ministers for Foreign Affairs and other high-level officials in the Conference on Disarmament, as expressions of support for the endeavours of the Conference and its role as the sole multilateral disarmament negotiating forum,

Recognizing also the need to conduct multilateral negotiations with the aim of reaching agreement on concrete issues,

Recalling, in this respect, that the Conference on Disarmament has a number of urgent and important issues for negotiation,

Considering that the present international climate should give additional impetus to multilateral negotiations with the aim of reaching concrete agreements,

Acknowledging the support of the United Nations Security Council summit on nuclear non-proliferation and nuclear disarmament, held on 24 September 2009, for the work of the Conference on Disarmament,

Bearing in mind the decision of the Conference on Disarmament of 29 May 2009[259] to establish four working groups and appoint three special coordinators, including on
working group under agenda item 1 entitled "Cessation of th
nuclear arms race and nuclear disarmament", which shal
negotiate a treaty banning the production of fissile material fo
nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices, on the basi
of the report of the Special Coordinator of 1995[260] and th
mandate contained therein, without prescribing or precludin
any outcome of discussions in the other three working groups
with a view to enabling future compromise and including th
possibility of future negotiations under any agenda item, thu
upholding the nature of the Conference,

Appreciating the continued cooperation among the State
members of the Conference on Disarmament as well as the si
successive Presidents of the Conference at its 2009 session,

Recognizing the importance of continuing consultation
on the question of the expansion of the membership of th
Conference on Disarmament,

Taking note of significant contributions made during th
2009 session to promote substantive discussions on issues o
the agenda, as well as of discussions held on other issues tha
could also be relevant to the current international securit
environment,

Welcoming the enhanced engagement between civi
society and the Conference on Disarmament at its 2009 sessio
according to decisions taken by the Conference,

Stressing the urgent need for the Conference o
Disarmament to commence its substantive work at th
beginning of its 2010 session,

1. *Reaffirms* the role of the Conference o
Disarmament as the sole multilateral disarmament negotiatin
forum of the international community;

2. *Welcomes* the consensus adoption of a programm
of work for the 2009 session of the Conference o
Disarmament,[259] including the establishment of four workin
groups and the appointment of three special coordinators;

3. *Takes note* of the active discussions held on th
implementation of the programme of work at the 2009 sessio
of the Conference on Disarmament, as duly reflected in th
report[258] and the records of the plenary meetings;

4. *Welcomes* the decision of the Conference o
Disarmament to request the current President and the incomin
President to conduct consultations during the intersession
period and, if possible, make recommendations, taking in
account all relevant proposals, past, present and futur
including those submitted as documents of the Conference o
Disarmament, views presented and discussions held, and

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[257] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Viet Nam and Zimbabwe.

[258] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/64/27).

[259] Ibid., sect. II.D; see also CD/1864.

[260] CD/1299.

endeavour to keep the membership of the Conference informed, as appropriate, of their consultations;

5. *Requests* all States members of the Conference on Disarmament to cooperate with the current President and successive Presidents in their efforts to guide the Conference to the early commencement of substantive work, including negotiations, in its 2010 session;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to ensure and strengthen, if needed, the provision to the Conference on Disarmament of all necessary administrative, substantive and conference support services;

7. *Requests* the Conference on Disarmament to submit a report on its work to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled "Report of the Conference on Disarmament".

RESOLUTION 64/65

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 2 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/393, para. 11)[261]

64/65. Report of the Disarmament Commission

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Disarmament Commission,[262]

Recalling its resolutions 47/54 A of 9 December 1992, 47/54 G of 8 April 1993, 48/77 A of 16 December 1993, 49/77 A of 15 December 1994, 50/72 D of 12 December 1995, 51/47 B of 10 December 1996, 52/40 B of 9 December 1997, 53/79 A of 4 December 1998, 54/56 A of 1 December 1999, 55/35 C of 20 November 2000, 56/26 A of 29 November 2001, 57/95 of 22 November 2002, 58/67 of 8 December 2003, 59/105 of 3 December 2004, 60/91 of 8 December 2005, 61/98 of 6 December 2006, 62/54 of 5 December 2007 and 63/83 of 2 December 2008,

Considering the role that the Disarmament Commission has been called upon to play and the contribution that it should make in examining and submitting recommendations on various problems in the field of disarmament and in the promotion of the implementation of the relevant decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Disarmament Commission;[262]

2. *Reaffirms* the validity of its decision 52/492 of 8 September 1998, concerning the efficient functioning of the Disarmament Commission;

3. *Recalls* its resolution 61/98, by which it adopted additional measures for improving the effectiveness of the Commission's methods of work;

4. *Reaffirms* the mandate of the Disarmament Commission as the specialized, deliberative body within the United Nations multilateral disarmament machinery that allows for in-depth deliberations on specific disarmament issues, leading to the submission of concrete recommendations on those issues;

5. *Also reaffirms* the importance of further enhancing the dialogue and cooperation among the First Committee, the Disarmament Commission and the Conference on Disarmament;

6. *Requests* the Disarmament Commission to continue its work in accordance with its mandate, as set forth in paragraph 118 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[263] and with paragraph 3 of Assembly resolution 37/78 H of 9 December 1982, and to that end to make every effort to achieve specific recommendations on the items on its agenda, taking into account the adopted "Ways and means to enhance the functioning of the Disarmament Commission";[264]

7. *Recommends* that the Disarmament Commission continue the consideration of the following items at its substantive session of 2010:

(*a*) Recommendations for achieving the objective of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation of nuclear weapons;

(*b*) Elements of a draft declaration of the 2010s as the fourth disarmament decade;

(*c*) Practical confidence-building measures in the field of conventional weapons. This item will be taken up upon the conclusion of the preparation of the elements of a draft declaration of the 2010s as the fourth disarmament decade, preferably by 2010 and in any case no later than 2011;

8. *Requests* the Disarmament Commission to meet for a period not exceeding three weeks during 2010, namely from 29 March to 16 April, and to submit a substantive report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session;

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[261] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by the members of the extended Bureau of the Disarmament Commission (Azerbaijan, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Italy, Netherlands, Poland, South Africa, Switzerland and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)) and Brazil, Colombia, Comoros, Kazakhstan and Philippines.

[262] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 42* (A/64/42).

[263] Resolution S-10/2.

[264] A/CN.10/137.

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit to the Disarmament Commission the annual report of the Conference on Disarmament,[265] together with all the official records of the sixty-fourth session of the General Assembly relating to disarmament matters, and to render all assistance that the Commission may require for implementing the present resolution;

10. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to ensure full provision to the Disarmament Commission and its subsidiary bodies of interpretation and translation facilities in the official languages and to assign, as a matter of priority, all the necessary resources and services, including verbatim records, to that end;

11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled "Report of the Disarmament Commission".

RESOLUTION 64/66

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 2 December 2009, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/394, para. 7),[266] by a recorded vote of 167 to 6, with 6 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Palau, United States of America

Abstaining: Australia, Cameroon, Canada, Côte d'Ivoire, India, Panama

64/66. The risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind its relevant resolutions,

Taking note of the relevant resolutions adopted by the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency, the latest of which are resolutions GC(53)/RES/16, adopted on 17 September 2009 and GC(53)/RES/17, adopted on 18 September 2009,[267]

Cognizant that the proliferation of nuclear weapons in the region of the Middle East would pose a serious threat to international peace and security,

Mindful of the immediate need for placing all nuclear facilities in the region of the Middle East under full-scope safeguards of the Agency,

Recalling the decision on principles and objectives for nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament adopted by the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons on 11 May 1995,[268] in which the Conference urged universal adherence to the Treaty[269] as an urgent priority and called upon all States not yet parties to the Treaty to accede to it at the earliest date, particularly those States that operate unsafeguarded nuclear facilities,

Recognizing with satisfaction that, in the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, the Conference undertook to make determined efforts towards the achievement of the goal of universality of the Treaty, called upon those remaining States not parties to the Treaty to accede to it, thereby accepting an international legally binding commitment not to acquire nuclear weapons or nuclear explosive devices and to accept Agency safeguards on all their nuclear activities, and underlined the necessity of universal adherence to the Treaty and of strict compliance by all parties with their obligations under the Treaty,[270]

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[265] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/64/27).

[266] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Bahrain, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Comoros, Djibouti, Egypt, Gabon, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen and Palestine.

[267] See International Atomic Energy Agency, *Resolutions and Other Decisions of the General Conference, Fifty-third Regular Session, 14–18 September 2009* (GC(53)/RES/DEC(2009)).

[268] See *1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document, Part I* (NPT/CONF.1995/32 (Part I) and Corr.2), annex.

[269] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

Recalling the resolution on the Middle East adopted by the 1995 Review and Extension Conference on 11 May 1995,[268] in which the Conference noted with concern the continued existence in the Middle East of unsafeguarded nuclear facilities, reaffirmed the importance of the early realization of universal adherence to the Treaty and called upon all States in the Middle East that had not yet done so, without exception, to accede to the Treaty as soon as possible and to place all their nuclear facilities under full-scope Agency safeguards,

Noting that Israel remains the only State in the Middle East that has not yet become party to the Treaty,

Concerned about the threats posed by the proliferation of nuclear weapons to the security and stability of the Middle East region,

Stressing the importance of taking confidence-building measures, in particular the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East, in order to enhance peace and security in the region and to consolidate the global non-proliferation regime,

Emphasizing the need for all parties directly concerned to seriously consider taking the practical and urgent steps required for the implementation of the proposal to establish a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and, as a means of promoting this objective, inviting the countries concerned to adhere to the Treaty and, pending the establishment of the zone, to agree to place all their nuclear activities under Agency safeguards,

Noting that one hundred and eighty-one States have signed the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty,[271] including a number of States in the region,

1. *Welcomes* the conclusions on the Middle East of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons;[272]

2. *Reaffirms* the importance of Israel's accession to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[269] and placement of all its nuclear facilities under comprehensive International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards in realizing the goal of universal adherence to the Treaty in the Middle East;

3. *Calls upon* that State to accede to the Treaty without further delay and not to develop, produce, test or otherwise acquire nuclear weapons, and to renounce possession of nuclear weapons, and to place all its unsafeguarded nuclear facilities under full-scope Agency safeguards as an important confidence-building measure among all States of the region and as a step towards enhancing peace and security;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled "The risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East".

RESOLUTION 64/67

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 2 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/395, para. 8)[273]

64/67. Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 63/85 of 2 December 2008,

Recalling with satisfaction the adoption and the entry into force of the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects,[274] and its amended article 1,[275] and the Protocol on Non-Detectable Fragments (Protocol I),[274] the Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby Traps and Other Devices (Protocol II)[274] and its amended version,[276] the Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Incendiary Weapons (Protocol III),[274] the Protocol on Blinding Laser Weapons (Protocol IV)[277] and the Protocol on Explosive Remnants of War (Protocol V),[278]

Welcoming the results of the Third Review Conference of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects, held from 7 to 17 November 2006 in Geneva,

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[270] See *2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vol. I (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Parts I and II)), part I, section entitled "Article IX".

[271] See resolution 50/245.

[272] See *2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vol. I (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Parts I and II)), part I, section entitled "Article VII and the security of non-nuclear-weapon States", para. 16.

[273] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Lithuania, Pakistan, Sweden and Switzerland.

[274] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1342, No. 22495.

[275] Ibid., vol. 2260, No. 22495.

[276] Ibid., vol. 2048, No. 22495.

[277] Ibid., vol. 2024, No. 22495.

[278] Ibid., vol. 2399, No. 22495.

Welcoming also the results of the 2008 Meeting of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention, held on 13 and 14 November 2008 in Geneva,

Welcoming further the results of the Tenth Annual Conference of the High Contracting Parties to Amended Protocol II, held on 12 November 2008 in Geneva,

Welcoming the results of the Second Conference of the High Contracting Parties to Protocol V, held on 10 and 11 November 2008 in Geneva,

Recalling the role played by the International Committee of the Red Cross in the elaboration of the Convention and the Protocols thereto, and welcoming the particular efforts of various international, non-governmental and other organizations in raising awareness of the humanitarian consequences of explosive remnants of war,

1. *Calls upon* all States that have not yet done so to take all measures to become parties, as soon as possible, to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects[274] and the Protocols thereto, as amended, with a view to achieving the widest possible adherence to these instruments at an early date, and so as to ultimately achieve their universality;

2. *Calls upon* all States parties to the Convention that have not yet done so to express their consent to be bound by the Protocols to the Convention and the amendment extending the scope of the Convention and the Protocols thereto to include armed conflicts of a non-international character;

3. *Emphasizes* the importance of the universalization of the Protocol on Explosive Remnants of War (Protocol V);[278]

4. *Welcomes* the additional ratifications and acceptances of or accessions to the Convention, as well as the consents to be bound by the Protocols thereto;

5. *Also welcomes* the adoption by the Third Review Conference of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention of a Plan of Action to promote universality of the Convention and its annexed Protocols,[279] and expresses appreciation for the continued efforts of the Secretary-General, as depositary of the Convention and its annexed Protocols, the Chair of the Meeting of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention, the President of the Second Conference of the High Contracting Parties to Protocol V and the President of the Tenth Annual Conference of the High Contracting Parties to Amended Protocol II, on behalf of the High Contracting Parties, to achieve the goal of universality;

6. *Recalls* the decision by the Third Review Conference to establish a Sponsorship Programme within the framework of the Convention,[280] and, with recognition of the value and importance of the programme, encourages States to contribute to the Sponsorship Programme;

7. *Welcomes* the commitment by States parties to continue to address the humanitarian problems caused by certain specific types of munitions in all their aspects, including cluster munitions, with a view to minimizing the humanitarian impact of these munitions;

8. *Expresses support* for the work conducted in 2009 by the Group of Governmental Experts of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention to continue its negotiations to address urgently the humanitarian impact of cluster munitions, while striking a balance between military and humanitarian considerations, in accordance with the mandate given to it by the Meeting of the High Contracting Parties, in November 2008;[281]

9. *Welcomes* the commitment of States parties to the Protocol on Explosive Remnants of War (Protocol V) to the effective and efficient implementation of the Protocol and the implementation of the decisions of the First and Second Conferences of the High Contracting Parties to the Protocol establishing a comprehensive framework for the exchange of information and cooperation,[282] and also welcomes the holding of the second Meeting of Experts of the High Contracting Parties to the Protocol, from 22 to 24 April 2009 in Geneva, as a mechanism for consultation and cooperation among the States parties;

10. *Notes* the decision of the Tenth Annual Conference of the High Contracting Parties to Amended Protocol II to establish an informal open-ended Group of Experts,[283] and welcomes the holding of the first session of the Group of Experts of the High Contracting Parties to Amended Protocol II, on 20 and 21 April 2009 in Geneva, to exchange national practices and experiences and to assess the implementation of the Protocol;

11. *Also notes* that, in conformity with article 8 of the Convention, conferences may be convened to examine amendments to the Convention or to any of the Protocols thereto, to examine additional protocols concerning other

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[279] See CCW/CONF.III/11 (Part II), annex III.

[280] Ibid., annex IV.

[281] See CCW/MSP/2008/4, para. 34.

[282] See CCW/P.V/CONF/2007/1 and Corr.1 and 2, and CCW/P.V/CONF/2008/12.

[283] See CCW/AP.II/CONF.10/2, para. 23.

categories of conventional weapons not covered by existing Protocols or to review the scope and application of the Convention and the Protocols thereto and to examine any proposed amendments or additional protocols;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to render the necessary assistance and to provide such services, including summary records, as may be required for the Third Conference of the High Contracting Parties to Protocol V, to be held on 9 and 10 November 2009, for the Eleventh Annual Conference of the High Contracting Parties to Amended Protocol II, to be held on 11 November 2009, and for the Meeting of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention, to be held on 12 and 13 November 2009, as well as for any continuation of work after the meetings;

13. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in his capacity as depositary of the Convention and the Protocols thereto, to continue to inform the General Assembly periodically, by electronic means, of ratifications and acceptances of and accessions to the Convention, its amended article 1[275] and the Protocols thereto;

14 *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled "Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects".

RESOLUTION 64/68

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 2 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/396, para. 7)[284]

64/68. Strengthening of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions on the subject, including resolution 63/86 of 2 December 2008,

Reaffirming the primary role of the Mediterranean countries in strengthening and promoting peace, security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region,

Welcoming the efforts deployed by the Euro-Mediterranean countries to strengthen their cooperation in combating terrorism, in particular by the adoption of the Euro-Mediterranean Code of Conduct on Countering Terrorism by the Euro-Mediterranean Summit, held in Barcelona, Spain, on 27 and 28 November 2005,

Bearing in mind all the previous declarations and commitments, as well as all the initiatives taken by the riparian countries at the recent summits, ministerial meetings and various forums concerning the question of the Mediterranean region,

Welcoming, in this regard, the adoption on 13 July 2008 of the Joint Declaration of the Paris Summit, which launched a reinforced partnership, "the Barcelona Process: Union for the Mediterranean", and the common political will to revive efforts to transform the Mediterranean into an area of peace, democracy, cooperation and prosperity,

Welcoming also the entry into force of the African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty (Treaty of Pelindaba)[285] as a contribution to the strengthening of peace and security both regionally and internationally,

Recognizing the indivisible character of security in the Mediterranean and that the enhancement of cooperation among Mediterranean countries with a view to promoting the economic and social development of all peoples of the region will contribute significantly to stability, peace and security in the region,

Recognizing also the efforts made so far and the determination of the Mediterranean countries to intensify the process of dialogue and consultations with a view to resolving the problems existing in the Mediterranean region and to eliminating the causes of tension and the consequent threat to peace and security, and their growing awareness of the need for further joint efforts to strengthen economic, social, cultural and environmental cooperation in the region,

Recognizing further that prospects for closer Euro-Mediterranean cooperation in all spheres can be enhanced by positive developments worldwide, in particular in Europe, in the Maghreb and in the Middle East,

Reaffirming the responsibility of all States to contribute to the stability and prosperity of the Mediterranean region and their commitment to respecting the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations as well as the provisions of the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,[286]

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[284] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Egypt, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Jordan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Tunisia and Turkey.

[285] A/50/426, annex.

[286] Resolution 2625 (XXV), annex.

Noting the peace negotiations in the Middle East, which should be of a comprehensive nature and represent an appropriate framework for the peaceful settlement of contentious issues in the region,

Expressing its concern at the persistent tension and continuing military activities in parts of the Mediterranean that hinder efforts to strengthen security and cooperation in the region,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[287]

1. *Reaffirms* that security in the Mediterranean is closely linked to European security as well as to international peace and security;

2. *Expresses its satisfaction* at the continuing efforts by Mediterranean countries to contribute actively to the elimination of all causes of tension in the region and to the promotion of just and lasting solutions to the persistent problems of the region through peaceful means, thus ensuring the withdrawal of foreign forces of occupation and respecting the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of all countries of the Mediterranean and the right of peoples to self-determination, and therefore calls for full adherence to the principles of non-interference, non-intervention, non-use of force or threat of use of force and the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force, in accordance with the Charter and the relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

3. *Commends* the Mediterranean countries for their efforts in meeting common challenges through coordinated overall responses, based on a spirit of multilateral partnership, towards the general objective of turning the Mediterranean basin into an area of dialogue, exchanges and cooperation, guaranteeing peace, stability and prosperity, encourages them to strengthen such efforts through, inter alia, a lasting multilateral and action-oriented cooperative dialogue among States of the region, and recognizes the role of the United Nations in promoting regional and international peace and security;

4. *Recognizes* that the elimination of the economic and social disparities in levels of development and other obstacles as well as respect and greater understanding among cultures in the Mediterranean area will contribute to enhancing peace, security and cooperation among Mediterranean countries through the existing forums;

5. *Calls upon* all States of the Mediterranean region that have not yet done so to adhere to all the multilaterally negotiated legal instruments related to the field of disarmament and non-proliferation, thus creating the conditions necessary for strengthening peace and cooperation in the region;

6. *Encourages* all States of the region to favour the conditions necessary for strengthening the confidence-building measures among them by promoting genuine openness and transparency on all military matters, by participating, inter alia, in the United Nations system for the standardized reporting of military expenditures and by providing accurate data and information to the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms;[288]

7. *Encourages* the Mediterranean countries to strengthen further their cooperation in combating terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, including the possible resort by terrorists to weapons of mass destruction, taking into account the relevant resolutions of the United Nations, and in combating international crime and illicit arms transfers and illicit drug production, consumption and trafficking, which pose a serious threat to peace, security and stability in the region and therefore to the improvement of the current political, economic and social situation and which jeopardize friendly relations among States, hinder the development of international cooperation and result in the destruction of human rights, fundamental freedoms and the democratic basis of pluralistic society;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on means to strengthen security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled "Strengthening of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region".

RESOLUTION 64/69

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 2 December 2009, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/397, para. 7),[289] by a recorded vote of 175 to 1, with 3 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo,

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[287] A/64/119 and Add.1.

[288] See resolution 46/36 L.

[289] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Eritrea, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Uruguay.

Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Democratic People's Republic of Korea

Abstaining: India, Mauritius, Syrian Arab Republic

64/69. Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty

The General Assembly,

Reiterating that the cessation of nuclear-weapon test explosions or any other nuclear explosions constitutes an effective nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation measure, and convinced that this is a meaningful step in the realization of a systematic process to achieve nuclear disarmament,

Recalling that the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, adopted by its resolution 50/245 of 10 September 1996, was opened for signature on 24 September 1996,

Stressing that a universal and effectively verifiable Treaty constitutes a fundamental instrument in the field of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation and that, after more than twelve years, its entry into force is more urgent than ever before,

Encouraged by the signing of the Treaty by one hundred and eighty-two States, including forty-one of the forty-four needed for its entry into force, and welcoming the ratification of one hundred and fifty States, including thirty-five of the forty-four needed for its entry into force, among which there are three nuclear-weapon States,

Recalling its resolution 63/87 of 2 December 2008,

Welcoming the Joint Ministerial Statement on the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, adopted at the Ministerial Meeting held in New York on 24 September 2008,[290]

Welcoming also the Final Declaration of the Sixth Conference on Facilitating the Entry into Force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, held in New York on 24 and 25 September 2009, pursuant to article XIV of the Treaty,[291] and noting the improved prospects for ratification in several Annex 2 countries,

1. *Stresses* the vital importance and urgency of signature and ratification, without delay and without conditions, to achieve the earliest entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty;[292]

2. *Welcomes* the contributions by the States signatories to the work of the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization, in particular its efforts to ensure that the Treaty's verification regime will be capable of meeting the verification requirements of the Treaty upon its entry into force, in accordance with article IV of the Treaty;

3. *Underlines* the need to maintain momentum towards completion of all elements of the verification regime;

4. *Urges* all States not to carry out nuclear-weapon test explosions or any other nuclear explosions, to maintain their moratoriums in this regard and to refrain from acts that would defeat the object and purpose of the Treaty, while stressing that these measures do not have the same permanent and legally binding effect as the entry into force of the Treaty;

5. *Recalls* Security Council resolutions 1718 (2006) of 14 October 2006 and 1874 (2009) of 12 June 2009, calls for their early implementation, and calls for early resumption of the Six-Party Talks;

6. *Urges* all States that have not yet signed the Treaty to sign and ratify it as soon as possible;

7. *Urges* all States that have signed but not yet ratified the Treaty, in particular those whose ratification is needed for its entry into force, to accelerate their ratification processes with a view to ensuring their earliest successful conclusion;

8. *Welcomes*, since the last session of the General Assembly, the ratification of the Treaty by Lebanon, Liberia, Malawi, Mozambique and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, as well as the signature by Trinidad and Tobago, as significant steps towards the early entry into force of the Treaty;

9. *Urges* all States to remain seized of the issue at the highest political level and, where in a position to do so, to promote adherence to the Treaty through bilateral and joint outreach, seminars and other means;

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[290] A/63/634, annex.

[291] See CTBT-Art.XIV/2009/6, annex.

[292] See resolution 50/245.

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization, to prepare a report on the efforts of States that have ratified the Treaty towards its universalization and possibilities for providing assistance on ratification procedures to States that so request it, and to submit such a report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session;

11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled "Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty".

RESOLUTION 64/70

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 2 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/398, para. 8)[293]

64/70. Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions relating to the complete and effective prohibition of bacteriological (biological) and toxin weapons and to their destruction,

Noting with satisfaction that there are one hundred and sixty-three States parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction,[294] including all of the permanent members of the Security Council,

Bearing in mind its call upon all States parties to the Convention to participate in the implementation of the recommendations of the Review Conferences, including the exchange of information and data agreed to in the Final Declaration of the Third Review Conference of the Parties to the Convention,[295] and to provide such information and data in conformity with standardized procedure to the Secretary-General on an annual basis and no later than 15 April,

Welcoming the reaffirmation made in the Final Declaration of the Fourth Review Conference[296] that under all circumstances the use of bacteriological (biological) and toxin weapons and their development, production and stockpiling are effectively prohibited under article I of the Convention,

Recalling the decision reached at the Sixth Review Conference to hold four annual meetings of the States parties of one week's duration each year commencing in 2007, prior to the Seventh Review Conference, which is to be held no later than the end of 2011, and to hold a one-week meeting of experts to prepare for each meeting of the States parties,[297]

1. *Notes* the increase in the number of States parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction,[294] reaffirms the call upon all signatory States that have not yet ratified the Convention to do so without delay, and calls upon those States that have not signed the Convention to become parties thereto at an early date, thus contributing to the achievement of universal adherence to the Convention;

2. *Welcomes* the information and data provided to date, and reiterates its call upon all States parties to the Convention to participate in the exchange of information and data agreed to in the Final Declaration of the Third Review Conference of the Parties to the Convention;[295]

3. *Also welcomes* the successful holding of meetings as part of the 2007–2010 intersessional process, and in this context also welcomes the discussion aimed at the promotion of common understanding and effective action on topics agreed at the Sixth Review Conference,[298] and urges States parties to continue to participate actively in the remaining intersessional process;

4. *Notes with satisfaction* that the Sixth Review Conference agreed on several measures to update the mechanism for the transmission of information within the framework of the confidence-building measures;

5. *Recalls* the decisions reached at the Sixth Review Conference,[299] and calls upon States parties to the Convention to participate in their implementation;

6. *Urges* States parties to continue to work closely with the Implementation Support Unit of the Office for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat in fulfilling its mandate, in accordance with the decision of the Sixth Review Conference;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to render the necessary assistance to the depositary Governments and to provide such services as may be required for the implementation of the decisions and recommendations of the Review Conferences, including all assistance to the annual meetings of the States parties and the meetings of experts;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled "Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction".

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[293] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Hungary.

[294] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1015, No. 14860.

[295] BWC/CONF.III/23, part II.

[296] BWC/CONF.IV/9, part II.

[297] BWC/CONF.VI/6, part III, para. 7.

[298] BWC/CONF.VI/6.

[299] Ibid., part III, paras. 1 and 7.

III. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

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RESOLUTION 64/83

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 10 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/401, para. 8)[1]

64/83. University for Peace

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 61/108 of 14 December 2006, in which it recalled that, in its resolution 34/111 of 14 December 1979, it had approved the idea of establishing the University for Peace as a specialized international centre for higher education, research and the dissemination of knowledge specifically aimed at training and education for peace and its universal promotion within the United Nations system, as well as all preceding resolutions on this item,

Recalling also that, in its resolution 35/55 of 5 December 1980, it approved the establishment of the University for Peace in conformity with the International Agreement for the Establishment of the University for Peace, contained in the annex to that resolution,

Noting that as the University approaches its thirtieth anniversary year, it continues to experience extraordinary growth and development in the exercise of the mandate given to it by the General Assembly,

Noting with appreciation the vigorous actions taken by the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and with the encouragement and support of the Government of Costa Rica, to revitalize the University,[2]

Recognizing the extraordinary progress the University has made in developing and carrying out programmes on critical subjects related to peace and security and in expanding its educational, training and research programmes to Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Central Asia and Latin America and the Caribbean,

Noting that the University has become a recognized leader in education, training and research on issues related to peace and conflict and that it is focusing its efforts on strengthening the three main components of its activities, namely, face-to-face teaching and research, expanding its presence and programmes in all regions of the world and distance learning to reach students who cannot come to its campus,

Noting also that the University places special emphasis on the areas of conflict prevention, peacekeeping, peacebuilding and the peaceful settlement of disputes and that it has launched programmes in the areas of democratic consensus-building and training of academic experts in the techniques of peaceful settlement of conflicts,

Noting further that in 1991 the Secretary-General, with the assistance of the United Nations Development Programme, established the Trust Fund for Peace consisting of voluntary contributions in order to provide the University with the means necessary to extend its sphere of activity to the whole world, taking full advantage of its potential capacity for education, research and support of the United Nations and to carry out its mandate of promoting peace in the world,

Considering the importance of promoting education for peace that fosters respect for the values inherent in peace and universal co-existence among people, including respect for the life, dignity and integrity of human beings, as well as friendship and solidarity among peoples irrespective of their nationality, race, sex, religion or culture,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to General Assembly resolution 61/108, outlining the extraordinary progress made by the University for Peace in building exemplary programmes on critical subjects related to peace and security;[3]

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in view of the important mandate given to the University and its potential role in developing new concepts and approaches to security through education, training and research in order to respond effectively to emerging threats to peace, to consider ways to further strengthen cooperation between the United Nations and the University;

3. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue using the services of the University as part of his conflict-resolution and peacebuilding efforts through the training of staff, especially those concerned with peacekeeping and peacebuilding, in order to strengthen their capacities in this area and in the promotion of the Declaration and the Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace;[4]

4. *Invites* the University to further strengthen and broaden the outreach of its programmes and activities for cooperation with and capacity-building for Member States in the areas of conflict prevention, conflict resolution and peacebuilding;

5. *Invites* Member States that have not already done so to accede to the International Agreement for the Establishment

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[1] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Belize, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Finland, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Iceland, Madagascar, Mexico, Morocco, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Senegal, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo and Uruguay.

[2] See A/54/312.

[3] A/64/281.

[4] Resolutions 53/243 A and B.

of the University for Peace,[5] thereby demonstrating their support for an educational institution devoted to the promotion of a universal culture of peace;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to consider either reviving the existing Trust Fund for Peace or alternatively establishing a new trust fund for peace to facilitate receipt of voluntary contributions for the University;

7. *Encourages* Member States, intergovernmental bodies, non-governmental organizations and interested individuals to contribute to the programmes, the trust fund, when established for the University, or the core budget of the University to enable it to continue to perform its valuable work;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-seventh session the item entitled "University for Peace", and requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at that session a report on the work of the University.

RESOLUTION 64/84

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 10 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/402, para. 8)[6]

64/84. Assistance in mine action

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 62/99 of 17 December 2007 and all its previous resolutions on assistance in mine clearance and on assistance in mine action, all adopted without a vote,

Recalling also all relevant treaties and conventions[7] and their review processes,

Noting with appreciation the extent to which the International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action has been commemorated worldwide,

Reaffirming its deep concern at the tremendous humanitarian and development problems caused by the presence of mines and explosive remnants of war,[8] which have serious and lasting social and economic consequences for the populations of countries affected by them,

Bearing in mind the serious threat that mines and explosive remnants of war pose to the safety, health and lives of local civilian populations, as well as of personnel participating in humanitarian, peacekeeping, rehabilitation and mine-clearance programmes and operations,

Deeply alarmed by the number of mines that continue to be laid each year as well as the presence of a decreasing but still very large number of, and area of square kilometres infested by, mines and explosive remnants of war as a result of armed conflicts, and therefore remaining convinced of the necessity and urgency of strengthening mine-action efforts by the international community with a view to eliminating the threat of landmines and explosive remnants of war to civilians as soon as possible,

Recognizing that, in addition to the primary role of States, the United Nations has a significant role to play in the field of assistance in mine action through the United Nations Mine Action Team,[9] including the United Nations Mine Action Service, and considering mine action to be an important and integrated component of United Nations humanitarian and development activities, as well as noting the integration of mine action in numerous United Nations peacekeeping operations,

Recognizing also the valuable mine-action efforts of national and international mine-action practitioners, including United Nations personnel and peacekeepers, enabling local communities to resume normal lives and reclaim their livelihoods by regaining access to previously contaminated lands,

Stressing the pressing need to urge non-State actors to halt immediately and unconditionally new deployments of mines and other associated explosive devices,

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[5] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1223, No. 19735.

[6] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Colombia, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

[7] These include the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction, 1997; the Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby Traps and Other Devices, as amended in 1996 (Protocol II to the 1980 Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects); the Protocol on Explosive Remnants of War, 2003 (Protocol V to the 1980 Convention); the Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and relating to the Protection of Victims of International Armed Conflicts (Protocol I), 1977; and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, 2006.

[8] As defined by Protocol V to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects.

[9] Consisting of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, United Nations Mine Action Service, Office for Disarmament Affairs, United Nations Development Programme, United Nations Children's Fund, United Nations Office for Project Services, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, Office of the Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, World Food Programme, World Health Organization and World Bank.

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[10]

2. *Calls for*, in particular, the continuation of the efforts of States, with the assistance of the United Nations and relevant organizations involved in mine action, as appropriate, to foster the establishment and development of national mine-action capacities in countries in which mines and explosive remnants of war constitute a serious threat to the safety, health and lives of the local civilian population or an impediment to social and economic development efforts at the national and local levels;

3. *Urges* all States, in particular those that have the capacity to do so, as well as the United Nations system and other relevant organizations and institutions involved in mine action, to support mine-affected States and territories, as appropriate, by providing:

(*a*) Assistance to countries affected by mines and explosive remnants of war for the establishment and development of national mine-action capacities, including, where appropriate, in the fulfilment of the relevant international obligations of those countries;

(*b*) Support for national programmes, where appropriate, in cooperation with the relevant bodies of the United Nations system and relevant regional, governmental and non-governmental organizations, to reduce the risks posed by landmines and explosive remnants of war, taking into consideration the different needs of women, girls, boys and men;

(*c*) Reliable, predictable and timely contributions for mine-action activities, including through national mine-action efforts and mine-action programmes of non-governmental organizations, including those relating to victim assistance and mine risk education, especially at the local level, as well as through relevant national, regional and global trust funds, including the Voluntary Trust Fund for Assistance in Mine Action;

(*d*) Necessary information and technical, financial and material assistance to locate, remove, destroy and otherwise render ineffective minefields, mines, booby traps, other devices and explosive remnants of war, in accordance with international law, as soon as possible;

(*e*) Technological assistance (i) to countries affected by mines and explosive remnants of war; and (ii) to promote user-oriented scientific research on and development of mine-action techniques and technology that are effective, sustainable, appropriate and environmentally sound;

4. *Encourages* efforts to conduct all mine-action activities in accordance with the International Mine Action Standards (IMAS) or IMAS-compliant national standards, and emphasizes the importance of using an information management system, such as the Information Management System for Mine Action, to help facilitate mine-action activities;

5. *Urges* all mine-affected States, pursuant to applicable international law, to identify all areas, as appropriate, under their jurisdiction or control containing mines and other explosive remnants of war in the most efficient manner possible and to employ land release techniques including non-technical survey, technical survey and clearance when appropriate;

6. *Encourages* mine-affected States, with support from relevant development partners as appropriate, to proactively mainstream mine action and victim assistance requirements into development plans and processes to ensure that development priorities include mine action and that mine action is predictably funded;

7. *Encourages* all relevant multilateral, regional and national programmes and bodies to include activities related to mine action, including clearance, in their humanitarian, rehabilitation, reconstruction and development assistance activities, where appropriate, bearing in mind the need to ensure national and local ownership, sustainability and capacity-building, as well as to include a gender and age-appropriate perspective in all aspects of such activities;

8. *Encourages* Member States, as appropriate, and relevant organizations involved in mine action to continue efforts to ensure that mine-action programmes are gender- and age-sensitive, so that women, girls, boys and men can benefit equally from them, and encourages the participation of all stakeholders in the programming of mine action;

9. *Stresses* the importance of cooperation and coordination in mine action, and emphasizes the primary responsibility of national authorities in that regard, also stresses the supporting role of the United Nations and other relevant organizations in that regard, and underlines the need for a comprehensive and independent evaluation of the scope, organization, effectiveness and approach of the work of the United Nations in mine action;

10. *Recognizes* the importance of explicitly incorporating references to mine action, when appropriate, in ceasefire and peace agreements in light of the potential that mine action can have as a peace and confidence-building measure in post-conflict situations among parties concerned;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution and on follow-up to previous resolutions on assistance in mine clearance and on assistance in mine action, including on relevant United Nations policies and activities;

12. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-sixth session the item entitled "Assistance in mine action".

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[10] A/64/287.

RESOLUTION 64/85

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 10 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/403, para. 9)[11]

64/85. Effects of atomic radiation

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 913 (X) of 3 December 1955, by which it established the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation, and its subsequent resolutions on the subject, including resolution 63/89 of 5 December 2008, in which, inter alia, it requested the Scientific Committee to continue its work,

Taking note with appreciation of the work of the Scientific Committee, and noting the letter from its Chair to the President of the General Assembly,[12]

Reaffirming the desirability of the Scientific Committee continuing its work,

Concerned about the potentially harmful effects on present and future generations resulting from the levels of radiation to which mankind and the environment are exposed,

Conscious of the continuing need to examine and compile information about atomic and ionizing radiation and to analyse its effects on mankind and the environment, and conscious also of the increased volume, complexity and diversity of that information,

Noting the views expressed by Member States at its sixty-fourth session with regard to the work of the Scientific Committee,

Emphasizing the vital need for sustainable, appropriate and predictable resourcing, as well as efficient management, of the work of the secretariat of the Scientific Committee to arrange the annual sessions and coordinate the development of documents based on scientific reviews from Member States of the sources of ionizing radiation and its effects on human health and the environment,

Recalling the deep concern of the Scientific Committee expressed in the reports on its fifty-fifth and fifty-sixth sessions that reliance on a single post at the Professional level in its secretariat had left the Committee seriously vulnerable and had hampered the efficient implementation of its approved programme of work,[13]

Recalling also the comprehensive report of the Secretary-General on the financial and administrative implications of increased membership of the Scientific Committee, staffing of its professional secretariat and methods to ensure sufficient, assured and predictable funding,[14]

Recalling its request to the Secretary-General, in formulating his proposed programme budget for the biennium 2010–2011, to consider all options, including the possibility of internal reallocation, to provide the Scientific Committee with the resources outlined in paragraphs 48 to 50 of his report,[14]

1. *Commends* the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation for the valuable contribution it has been making in the course of the past fifty-four years, since its inception, to wider knowledge and understanding of the levels, effects and risks of ionizing radiation, and for fulfilling its original mandate with scientific authority and independence of judgement;

2. *Reaffirms* the decision to maintain the present functions and independent role of the Scientific Committee;

3. *Requests* the Scientific Committee to continue its work, including its important activities to increase knowledge of the levels, effects and risks of ionizing radiation from all sources;

4. *Endorses* the intentions and plans of the Scientific Committee, including those outlined in the letter from its Chair to the President of the General Assembly,[12] for conducting its present programme of work of scientific review and assessment on behalf of the General Assembly, encourages the Committee at its earliest convenience to submit the related reports, including assessments of levels of radiation from energy production and the effects on human health and the environment, and on the attribution of health effects due to radiation exposure, and to initiate, as far as possible, work on the remaining previously endorsed topics, and requests the Committee to submit plans for its future programme of work to the Assembly at its sixty-fifth session;

5. *Requests* the Scientific Committee to continue at its next session the review of the important questions in the field of ionizing radiation and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session;

6. *Re-emphasizes* the need for the Scientific Committee to hold regular sessions on an annual basis so that its report can reflect the latest developments and findings in the

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[11] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Canada, China, Costa Rica, Czech Republic, Ecuador, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, India, Japan, Kazakhstan, Lithuania, Malaysia, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Monaco, Pakistan, Poland, Russian Federation, Singapore, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Togo, Ukraine and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

[12] A/64/223.

[13] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 46* (A/62/46), para. 5; and ibid., *Sixty-third Session, Supplement No. 46* (A/63/46), para. 11.

[14] A/63/478.

field of ionizing radiation and thereby provide updated information for dissemination among all States;

7. *Expresses its appreciation* for the assistance rendered to the Scientific Committee by Member States, the specialized agencies, the International Atomic Energy Agency and non-governmental organizations, and invites them to increase their cooperation in this field;

8. *Invites* the Scientific Committee to continue its consultations with scientists and experts from interested Member States in the process of preparing its future scientific reports, and requests the Secretariat to facilitate such consultations;

9. *Welcomes*, in this context, the readiness of Member States to provide the Scientific Committee with relevant information on the effects of ionizing radiation in affected areas, and invites the Committee to analyse and give due consideration to such information, particularly in the light of its own findings;

10. *Invites* Member States, the organizations of the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations concerned to provide further relevant data about doses, effects and risks from various sources of radiation, which would greatly help in the preparation of future reports of the Scientific Committee to the General Assembly;

11. *Requests* the United Nations Environment Programme to continue providing support for the effective conduct of the work of the Scientific Committee and for the dissemination of its findings to the General Assembly, the scientific community and the public;

12. *Urges* the United Nations Environment Programme to continue to review and strengthen the funding of the Scientific Committee, pursuant to paragraph 13 of resolution 63/89, and to continue to seek out and consider temporary funding mechanisms to complement existing ones, and, in that context, encourages Member States to consider making voluntary contributions to the general trust fund established by the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme to receive and manage voluntary contributions to support the work of the Committee;

13. *Reminds* the Scientific Committee, as directed in paragraph 17 of resolution 63/89, to continue its reflection on how its current, as well as its potentially revised, membership could best support its essential work, including by developing, with the participation of the observer countries, detailed, objective and transparent criteria and indicators to be applied equitably to present and future members alike, and to report its conclusions by the end of June 2010;

14. *Welcomes* the attendance of Belarus, Finland, Pakistan, the Republic of Korea, Spain and Ukraine as observers at the fifty-sixth session of the Scientific Committee, invites each of those States to designate one scientist to attend, as an observer, the fifty-seventh session of the Committee, and resolves to take a decision on the membership of the Committee, including the membership of those six States, once a decision on resource allocation has been made, and after the fifty-seventh session of the Scientific Committee, but no later than the end of the sixty-fourth session of the General Assembly.

RESOLUTION 64/86

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 10 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/404, para. 13)[15]

64/86. International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 51/122 of 13 December 1996, 54/68 of 6 December 1999, 59/2 of 20 October 2004, 61/110 and 61/111 of 14 December 2006, 62/101 of 17 December 2007, 62/217 of 22 December 2007 and 63/90 of 5 December 2008,

Deeply convinced of the common interest of mankind in promoting and expanding the exploration and use of outer space, as the province of all mankind, for peaceful purposes and in continuing efforts to extend to all States the benefits derived therefrom, and also of the importance of international cooperation in this field, for which the United Nations should continue to provide a focal point,

Reaffirming the importance of international cooperation in developing the rule of law, including the relevant norms of space law and their important role in international cooperation for the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes, and of the widest possible adherence to international treaties that promote the peaceful uses of outer space in order to meet emerging new challenges, especially for developing countries,

Seriously concerned about the possibility of an arms race in outer space, and bearing in mind the importance of article IV of the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies[16] (Outer Space Treaty),

Recognizing that all States, in particular those with major space capabilities, should contribute actively to the goal of preventing an arms race in outer space as an essential condition for the promotion and strengthening of international cooperation in the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes,

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[15] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced in the Committee by the representative of Colombia (on behalf of the Working Group of the Whole on International Cooperation in the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space).

[16] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 610, No. 8843.

Recognizing also that space debris is an issue of concern to all nations,

Noting the progress achieved in the further development of peaceful space exploration and applications as well as in various national and cooperative space projects, which contributes to international cooperation, and the importance of further developing the legal framework to strengthen international cooperation in this field,

Convinced of the importance of the recommendations in the resolution entitled "The Space Millennium: Vienna Declaration on Space and Human Development", adopted by the Third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNISPACE III), held at Vienna from 19 to 30 July 1999,[17] and the need to promote the use of space technology towards implementing the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[18]

Seriously concerned about the devastating impact of disasters,[19]

Desirous of enhancing international coordination and cooperation at the global level in disaster management and emergency response through greater access to and use of space-based services for all countries and facilitating capacity-building and institutional strengthening for disaster management, in particular in developing countries,

Deeply convinced that the use of space science and technology and their applications in areas such as telemedicine, tele-education, disaster management, environmental protection and other Earth observation applications contribute to achieving the objectives of the global conferences of the United Nations that address various aspects of economic, social and cultural development, particularly poverty eradication,

Taking note, in that regard, of the fact that the 2005 World Summit recognized the important role that science and technology play in promoting sustainable development,[20]

Having considered the report of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space on the work of its fifty-second session,[21]

1. *Endorses* the report of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space on the work of its fifty-second session;[21]

2. *Agrees* that the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, at its fifty-third session, should consider the items recommended by the Committee at its fifty-second session;

3. *Notes* that, at its forty-eighth session, the Legal Subcommittee of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space continued its work,[22] as mandated by the General Assembly in its resolution 63/90;

4. *Agrees* that the Legal Subcommittee, at its forty-ninth session, should consider the items recommended by the Committee,[23] taking into account the concerns of all countries, in particular those of developing countries;

5. *Also agrees* that the Legal Subcommittee, at its forty-ninth session, should reconvene its Working Group on the Status and Application of the Five United Nations Treaties on Outer Space, its Working Group on Matters Relating to the Definition and Delimitation of Outer Space and its Working Group on National Legislation Relevant to the Peaceful Exploration and Use of Outer Space;

6. *Urges* States that have not yet become parties to the international treaties governing the uses of outer space[24] to give consideration to ratifying or acceding to those treaties in accordance with their domestic law, as well as incorporating them in their national legislation;

7. *Notes* that, at its forty-sixth session, the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space continued its work,[25] as mandated by the General Assembly in its resolution 63/90;

8. *Agrees* that the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, at its forty-seventh session, should consider the items recommended by the Committee,[26] taking into

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[17] See *Report of the Third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, Vienna, 19–30 July 1999* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.00.I.3), chap. I, resolution 1.

[18] See resolution 55/2.

[19] The term "disasters" refers to natural or technological disasters.

[20] See resolution 60/1, para. 60.

[21] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/64/20).

[22] Ibid., chap. II.D; and A/AC.105/935.

[23] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/64/20), paras. 224, 226 and 227.

[24] Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies (United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 610, No. 8843); Agreement on the Rescue of Astronauts, the Return of Astronauts and the Return of Objects Launched into Outer Space (United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 672, No. 9574); Convention on International Liability for Damage Caused by Space Objects (United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 961, No. 13810); Convention on Registration of Objects Launched into Outer Space (United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1023, No. 15020); and Agreement Governing the Activities of States on the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies (United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1363, No. 23002).

[25] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/64/20), chap. II.C; and A/AC.105/933.

[26] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/64/20), paras. 163 and 164.

account the concerns of all countries, in particular those of developing countries;

9. *Also agrees* that the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, at its forty-seventh session, should reconvene its Working Group of the Whole, its Working Group on the Use of Nuclear Power Sources in Outer Space and its Working Group on Near-Earth Objects;

10. *Welcomes* the fact that the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, at its forty-seventh session, will begin consideration under a multi-year workplan of two new items, entitled "International Space Weather Initiative"[27] and "Long-term sustainability of outer space activities",[28] as agreed by the Committee;

11. *Welcomes with satisfaction* the Safety Framework for Nuclear Power Source Applications in Outer Space, adopted by the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee at its forty-sixth session and endorsed by the Committee at its fifty-second session;[29]

12. *Notes* that the International Atomic Energy Agency Commission on Safety Standards agreed on the Safety Framework at its twenty-fifth meeting, which was held in Vienna from 22 to 24 April 2009, and welcomes the constructive and efficient cooperation between the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee and the International Atomic Energy Agency in the preparation of the Safety Framework, which is an example of successful inter-agency cooperation within the United Nations system;

13. *Notes with appreciation* that some States are already implementing space debris mitigation measures on a voluntary basis, through national mechanisms and consistent with the Space Debris Mitigation Guidelines of the Inter-Agency Space Debris Coordination Committee and with the Space Debris Mitigation Guidelines of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space,[30] endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 62/217;

14. *Invites* other States to implement, through relevant national mechanisms, the Space Debris Mitigation Guidelines of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space;[30]

15. *Considers* that it is essential that Member States pay more attention to the problem of collisions of space objects, including those with nuclear power sources, with space debris, and other aspects of space debris, calls for the continuation of national research on this question, for the development of improved technology for the monitoring of space debris and for the compilation and dissemination of data on space debris, also considers that, to the extent possible, information thereon should be provided to the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, and agrees that international cooperation is needed to expand appropriate and affordable strategies to minimize the impact of space debris on future space missions;

16. *Urges* all States, in particular those with major space capabilities, to contribute actively to the goal of preventing an arms race in outer space as an essential condition for the promotion of international cooperation in the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes;

17. *Notes with appreciation* that the activities planned by the United Nations Programme on Space Applications for 2010 would address, inter alia, water resources management, socio-economic benefits of space activities, small satellite technology for sustainable development, space weather, global navigation satellite systems, search and rescue and space law;[31]

18. *Welcomes* the progress made by the International Committee on Global Navigation Satellite Systems towards achieving compatibility and interoperability among global and regional space-based positioning, navigation and timing systems and in the promotion of the use of global navigation satellite systems and their integration into national infrastructure, particularly in developing countries, and notes with satisfaction that the International Committee held its third meeting in Pasadena, United States of America, from 8 to 12 December 2008 and its fourth meeting in St. Petersburg, Russian Federation, from 14 to 18 September 2009, and that its fifth meeting will be jointly organized by Italy and the European Commission in 2010;

19. *Endorses* the recommendation of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space that the Office for Outer Space Affairs of the Secretariat should continue to serve as the executive secretariat of the International Committee on Global Navigation Satellite Systems and its Providers' Forum;[32]

20. *Notes with satisfaction* the progress made within the framework of the United Nations Platform for Space-based Information for Disaster Management and Emergency Response (UN-SPIDER) in the implementation of the platform programme for the period 2007–2009;

21. *Endorses* the workplan of the UN-SPIDER programme for the biennium 2010–2011,[33] and encourage

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[27] Ibid., paras. 155 and 164; and A/AC.105/933, annex I, para. 16.

[28] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/64/20), paras. 161 and 164.

[29] Ibid., para. 138; and A/AC.105/934.

[30] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/62/20), paras. 117 and 118, and annex.

[31] Ibid., *Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/64/20), para. 82.

[32] Ibid., para. 133.

[33] A/AC.105/937, annex.

Member States to provide all support necessary, on a voluntary basis, to UN-SPIDER, including financial support, to enable it to carry out the workplan;

22. *Welcomes* the fact that, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 61/110, regional support offices were established in the Islamic Republic of Iran, Nigeria and Romania, and that a cooperation agreement was reached with the Asian Disaster Reduction Centre, to support the implementation of the activities of the UN-SPIDER programme;[34]

23. *Notes with appreciation* that the African regional centres for space science and technology education in the French and English languages, located in Morocco and Nigeria, respectively, as well as the Centre for Space Science and Technology Education in Asia and the Pacific and the Regional Centre for Space Science and Technology Education for Latin America and the Caribbean, affiliated to the United Nations, have continued their education programmes in 2009;

24. *Welcomes* the fact that the regional centres would serve as International Committee on Global Navigation Satellite Systems information centres;[35]

25. *Agrees* that the regional centres should continue to report to the Committee on their activities on an annual basis;

26. *Emphasizes* that regional and interregional cooperation in the field of space activities is essential to strengthen the peaceful uses of outer space, assist States in the development of their space capabilities and contribute to the achievement of the goals of the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[36] and to that end fosters interregional dialogue on space matters between Member States;

27. *Recognizes*, in this regard, the important role played by conferences and other mechanisms in strengthening regional and international cooperation among States, such as the Third African Leadership Conference on Space Science and Technology for Sustainable Development, to be held in Algiers from 7 to 9 December 2009; the sixteenth session of the Asia-Pacific Regional Space Agency Forum, to be held in Bangkok from 26 to 29 January 2010 in cooperation with the Sentinel Asia project; the Asia-Pacific Space Cooperation Organization, with headquarters in Beijing, which started operating formally in December 2008; and the International Air and Space Fair, to be held in Santiago from 23 to 28 March 2010;

28. *Notes with appreciation* that since the adoption of the Declaration of San Francisco de Quito by the Fifth Space Conference of the Americas in July 2006, more States in the Latin America and Caribbean region have set up national space entities of a civilian nature, thus laying the foundation for enhanced regional cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space, and recalls that in the Declaration, States in the Latin America and Caribbean region were invited to, inter alia, "set up national space entities to lay the foundation for a regional entity for cooperation";

29. *Welcomes*, in that regard, the fact that the Government of Mexico will host the Sixth Space Conference of the Americas from 22 to 27 November 2010 and that the preparatory meeting for the Conference will be held in Santiago in June 2010;

30. *Emphasizes* the need to increase the benefits of space technology and its applications and to contribute to an orderly growth of space activities favourable to sustained economic growth and sustainable development in all countries, including mitigation of the consequences of disasters, in particular in the developing countries;

31. *Notes* that space science and technology and their applications could make important contributions to economic, social and cultural development and welfare, as indicated in the resolution entitled "The Space Millennium: Vienna Declaration on Space and Human Development",[37] its resolution 59/2 and the Plan of Action of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space on the implementation of the recommendations of UNISPACE III;[38]

32. *Notes with appreciation* that a number of the recommendations set out in the Plan of Action have been implemented and that satisfactory progress is being made in implementing the outstanding recommendations;

33. *Urges* all Member States to continue to contribute to the Trust Fund for the United Nations Programme on Space Applications to enhance the capacity of the Office for Outer Space Affairs to provide technical and legal advisory services in accordance with the Plan of Action, while maintaining the priority thematic areas agreed by the Committee;

34. *Reiterates* that the benefits of space technology and its applications should continue to be brought to the attention, in particular, of the major United Nations conferences and summits for economic, social and cultural development and related fields and that the use of space technology should be promoted towards achieving the objectives of those conferences and summits and for implementing the United Nations Millennium Declaration;

35. *Notes with appreciation* that the initiative of the Chair of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space

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[34] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/64/20), para. 122.

[35] Ibid., para. 132.

[38] See A/59/174, sect. VI.B.

to seek a holistic approach for enhancing coordination between Member States and the United Nations system in applying space science and technology to meet the challenges to development of all countries and to further promote and strengthen the use of space technology and its applications in the United Nations system would be further developed for the consideration of the Committee at its fifty-third session;[37]

36. *Welcomes* the increased efforts to strengthen further the Inter-Agency Meeting on Outer Space Activities as the central United Nations mechanism for building partnerships and coordinating space-related activities within the framework of the ongoing reforms in the United Nations system to work in unison and deliver as one, and encourages entities of the United Nations system to participate fully in the work of the Inter-Agency Meeting;

37. *Urges* entities of the United Nations system, particularly those participating in the Inter-Agency Meeting on Outer Space Activities, to continue to examine, in cooperation with the Committee, how space science and technology and their applications could contribute to implementing the United Nations Millennium Declaration on the development agenda, particularly in the areas relating to, inter alia, food security and increasing opportunities for education;

38. *Invites* the Inter-Agency Meeting on Outer Space Activities to continue to contribute to the work of the Committee and to report to the Committee on the work conducted at its annual sessions;

39. *Notes with satisfaction* that the open informal meetings, held in conjunction with the annual sessions of the Inter-Agency Meeting on Outer Space Activities and in which representatives of member States and observers in the Committee participate, provide a constructive mechanism for an active dialogue between the entities of the United Nations system and member States and observers in the Committee;

40. *Welcomes* the contribution of the Committee to the work of the Commission on Sustainable Development,[38] and agrees that the Director of the Office for Outer Space Affairs of the Secretariat should continue to participate in the sessions of the Commission to raise awareness and promote the benefits of space science and technology for sustainable development, and that the Director of the Division for Sustainable Development of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat should continue to be invited to participate in the sessions of the Committee to inform it how it could further contribute to the work of the Commission;

41. *Requests* the United Nations University and other scientific institutions and the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean to explore the possibilities of providing training and policy research at the crossroads of international law, climate change and outer space;

42. *Requests* the Committee to continue to consider, as a matter of priority, ways and means of maintaining outer space for peaceful purposes and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session, and agrees that during its consideration of the matter the Committee could continue to consider ways to promote regional and interregional cooperation based on experiences stemming from the Space Conferences of the Americas, the African Leadership Conferences on Space Science and Technology for Sustainable Development and the role space technology could play in the implementation of recommendations of the World Summit on Sustainable Development;

43. *Endorses* the composition of the bureaux of the Committee and its subcommittees for the period 2010–2011,[39] and agrees that the Committee and its subcommittees should elect their officers at their respective sessions in 2010 in accordance with that composition;

44. *Also endorses* the decision of the Committee to grant permanent observer status to the Asia-Pacific Space Cooperation Organization;[40]

45. *Notes* that each of the regional groups has the responsibility for actively promoting the participation in the work of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies of the member States of the Committee that are also members of the respective regional groups, and agrees that the regional groups should consider this Committee-related matter among their members;

46. *Requests* entities of the United Nations system and other international organizations to continue and, where appropriate, to enhance their cooperation with the Committee and to provide it with reports on the issues dealt with in the work of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies, notes with satisfaction that a panel discussion on space applications and global health was held at United Nations Headquarters on 20 October 2009, and agrees that a panel discussion should be held at the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly on a topic to be selected by the Committee, taking into account the panel discussions held on climate change, food security and global health;

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[37] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/64/20), paras. 15 and 290.

[38] See A/AC.105/872, A/AC.105/892 and A/AC.105/944.

[39] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/64/20), para. 309.

[40] Ibid., para. 311.

RESOLUTION 64/87

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 10 December 2009, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/405, para. 16),[41] by a recorded vote of 168 to 1, with 7 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel

Abstaining: Cameroon, Fiji, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, United States of America, Vanuatu

64/87. Assistance to Palestine refugees

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 194 (III) of 11 December 1948 and all its subsequent resolutions on the question, including resolution 63/91 of 5 December 2008,

Recalling also its resolution 302 (IV) of 8 December 1949, by which, inter alia, it established the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East,

Recalling further the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

Aware of the fact that, for more than six decades, the Palestine refugees have suffered from the loss of their homes, lands and means of livelihood,

Affirming the imperative of resolving the problem of the Palestine refugees for the achievement of justice and for the achievement of lasting peace in the region,

Acknowledging the essential role that the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East has played for sixty years since its establishment in ameliorating the plight of the Palestine refugees through the provision of education, health, relief and social services and ongoing work in the areas of camp infrastructure, microfinance, protection and emergency assistance,

Taking note of the report of the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East covering the period from 1 January to 31 December 2008,[42]

Aware of the continuing needs of the Palestine refugees throughout all the fields of operation, namely, Jordan, Lebanon, the Syrian Arab Republic and the Occupied Palestinian Territory,

Expressing grave concern at the especially difficult situation of the Palestine refugees under occupation, including with regard to their safety, well-being and socio-economic living conditions,

Expressing grave concern in particular at the critical humanitarian situation and socio-economic conditions of the Palestine refugees in the Gaza Strip, and underlining the importance of emergency and humanitarian assistance and urgent reconstruction efforts,

Noting the signing of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements[43] on 13 September 1993 by the Government of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization and the subsequent implementation agreements,

1. *Notes with regret* that repatriation or compensation of the refugees, as provided for in paragraph 11 of General Assembly resolution 194 (III), has not yet been effected, and that, therefore, the situation of the Palestine refugees continues

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[41] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Algeria, Austria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bulgaria, Comoros, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Egypt, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guinea, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Jordan, Kuwait, Latvia, Lebanon, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Morocco, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Norway, Oman, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen and Palestine.

[42] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 13* (A/64/13); and ibid., *Supplement No. 13A* (A/64/13/Add.1).

[43] A/48/486-S/26560, annex.

to be a matter of grave concern and the Palestine refugees continue to require assistance to meet basic health, education and living needs;

2. *Also notes with regret* that the United Nations Conciliation Commission for Palestine has been unable to find a means of achieving progress in the implementation of paragraph 11 of General Assembly resolution 194 (III), and reiterates its request to the Conciliation Commission to continue exerting efforts towards the implementation of that paragraph and to report to the Assembly as appropriate, but no later than 1 September 2010;

3. *Affirms* the necessity for the continuation of the work of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East and the importance of its unimpeded operation and its provision of services for the well-being and human development of the Palestine refugees and for the stability of the region, pending the just resolution of the question of the Palestine refugees;

4. *Calls upon* all donors to continue to make the most generous efforts possible to meet the anticipated needs of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, including with regard to increased expenditures arising from the continuing deterioration of the socio-economic and humanitarian situation in the region, particularly in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, and those mentioned in recent emergency appeals;

5. *Commends* the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East for its provision of vital assistance to the Palestine refugees and its role as a stabilizing factor in the region and the tireless efforts of the staff of the Agency in carrying out its mandate, and welcomes in this regard the high-level event of the General Assembly commemorating the sixtieth anniversary of the establishment of the Agency, on 24 September 2009.

RESOLUTION 64/88

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 10 December 2009, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/405, para. 16),[44] by a recorded vote of 166 to 7, with 4 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Palau, Panama, United States of America

Abstaining: Cameroon, Canada, Fiji, Vanuatu

64/88. Persons displaced as a result of the June 1967 and subsequent hostilities

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 2252 (ES-V) of 4 July 1967, 2341 B (XXII) of 19 December 1967 and all subsequent related resolutions,

Recalling also Security Council resolutions 237 (1967) of 14 June 1967 and 259 (1968) of 27 September 1968,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General submitted in pursuance of its resolution 63/92 of 5 December 2008,[45]

Taking note also of the report of the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East covering the period from 1 January to 31 December 2008,[46]

Concerned about the continuing human suffering resulting from the June 1967 and subsequent hostilities,

Taking note of the relevant provisions of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements of

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[44] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Egypt, Guinea, Indonesia, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Nicaragua, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen and Palestine.

[45] A/64/323.

[46] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 13* (A/64/13); and ibid., *Supplement No. 13A* (A/64/13/Add.1).

13 September 1993[47] with regard to the modalities for the admission of persons displaced in 1967, and concerned that the process agreed upon has not yet been effected,

1. *Reaffirms* the right of all persons displaced as a result of the June 1967 and subsequent hostilities to return to their homes or former places of residence in the territories occupied by Israel since 1967;

2. *Expresses deep concern* that the mechanism agreed upon by the parties in article XII of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements of 13 September 1993[47] on the return of displaced persons has not been complied with, and stresses the necessity for an accelerated return of displaced persons;

3. *Endorses*, in the meanwhile, the efforts of the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East to continue to provide humanitarian assistance, as far as practicable, on an emergency basis, and as a temporary measure, to persons in the area who are currently displaced and in serious need of continued assistance as a result of the June 1967 and subsequent hostilities;

4. *Strongly appeals* to all Governments and to organizations and individuals to contribute generously to the Agency and to the other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned, for the above-mentioned purposes;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General, after consulting with the Commissioner-General, to report to the General Assembly before its sixty-fifth session on the progress made with regard to the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 64/89

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 10 December 2009, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/405, para. 16),[48] by a recorded vote of 167 to 6, with 4 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Palau, United States of America

Abstaining: Cameroon, Canada, Fiji, Vanuatu

64/89. Operations of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 194 (III) of 11 December 1948, 212 (III) of 19 November 1948, 302 (IV) of 8 December 1949 and all subsequent related resolutions, including its resolution 63/93 of 5 December 2008,

Recalling also the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

Having considered the report of the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East covering the period from 1 January to 31 December 2008,[49]

Taking note of the letter dated 10 June 2009 from the Chair of the Advisory Commission of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East addressed to the Commissioner-General,[50]

Deeply concerned about the critical financial situation of the Agency, as well as its rising expenditures resulting from the deterioration of the socio-economic and humanitarian conditions in the region and their significant negative impact on the provision of necessary Agency services to the Palestine refugees, including its emergency-related and development programmes,

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[47] A/48/486-S/26560, annex.

[48] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Egypt, Guinea, Indonesia, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mauritania, Morocco, Nicaragua, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen and Palestine.

[49] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 13* (A/64/13); and ibid., *Supplement No. 13A* (A/64/13/Add.1).

[50] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 13* (A/64/13), pp. vi and vii.

Recalling Articles 100, 104 and 105 of the Charter of the United Nations and the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations,[51]

Recalling also the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel,[52]

Affirming the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[53] to the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967, including East Jerusalem,

Aware of the continuing needs of the Palestine refugees throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory and in the other fields of operation, namely, Jordan, Lebanon and the Syrian Arab Republic,

Gravely concerned about the extremely difficult living conditions being faced by the Palestine refugees in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, particularly in the refugee camps in the Gaza Strip, as a result of the continuing prolonged Israeli closures and severe economic and movement restrictions that in effect amount to a blockade and the military operations in the Gaza Strip between December 2008 and January 2009, which caused extensive loss of life and injury, particularly among Palestinian civilians, including children and women; widespread damage and destruction to Palestinian homes, properties, vital infrastructure and public institutions, including hospitals, schools and United Nations facilities; and internal displacement of civilians,

Commending the extraordinary efforts by the Agency to provide emergency relief, medical, food, shelter and other humanitarian assistance to needy and displaced families in the Gaza Strip,

Recalling, in this regard, its resolution ES-10/18 of 16 January 2009 and Security Council resolution 1860 (2009) of 8 January 2009,

Expressing regret over the continued suspension of the Agency's efforts to repair and rebuild thousands of damaged or destroyed refugee shelters due to the continued prohibition of the import of essential construction materials into the Gaza Strip by Israel,

Stressing the urgent need for reconstruction to begin in the Gaza Strip, including through the completion of numerous suspended projects managed by the Agency, according to the proposal of the Secretary-General, and the commencement of United Nations-led civilian reconstruction activities,

Welcoming, in this regard, the International Conference in Support of the Palestinian Economy for the Reconstruction of Gaza, held in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, on 2 March 2009, and urging the disbursement of pledges to accelerate the reconstruction process,

Taking note of the Agency's continuing efforts to assist those refugees affected and displaced by the crisis in the Nahr el-Bared refugee camp in northern Lebanon, and welcoming the efforts of the Government of Lebanon and the international community to support the rebuilding by the Agency of the Nahr el-Bared camp,

Aware of the valuable work done by the Agency in providing protection to the Palestinian people, in particular Palestine refugees,

Gravely concerned about the endangerment of the safety of the Agency's staff and about the damage and destruction caused to the facilities of the Agency, in particular as a result of the military operations in the Gaza Strip during the reporting period,

Deploring the extensive damage and destruction of Agency facilities in the Gaza Strip caused during the military operations between December 2008 and January 2009, including to schools where civilians were sheltered and the Agency's main compound and warehouse, as reported in the summary by the Secretary-General of the report of the Board of Inquiry[54] and in the report of the United Nations Fact-finding Mission on the Gaza Conflict,[55]

Deploring also, in this regard, the breaches of the inviolability of United Nations premises, the failure to accord the property and assets of the Organization immunity from any form of interference and the failure to protect United Nations personnel, premises and property,

Deploring further the killing and injury of Agency staff members by the Israeli occupying forces in the Occupied Palestinian Territory since September 2000,

Deploring the killing and wounding of refugee children in the Agency schools by the Israeli occupying forces,

Expressing deep concern about the gravely negative impact of the continuing prolonged closures and severe restrictions on the movement of persons and goods, which in effect amount to a blockade in the Gaza Strip, and the construction of the wall, contrary to international law, in the

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[51] Resolution 22 A (I).

[52] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2051, No. 35457.

[53] Ibid., vol. 75, No. 973.

[54] See A/63/855-S/2009/250.

[55] A/HRC/12/48.

Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in and around East Jerusalem, on the socio-economic situation of the Palestine refugees,

Deeply concerned about the continuing imposition of restrictions on the freedom of movement and access of the Agency's staff, vehicles and goods, and the injury, harassment and intimidation of the Agency's staff, which undermine and obstruct the work of the Agency, including its ability to provide essential basic and emergency services,

Aware of the agreement between the Agency and the Government of Israel,

Taking note of the agreement reached on 24 June 1994, embodied in an exchange of letters between the Agency and the Palestine Liberation Organization,[56]

1. *Reaffirms* that the effective functioning of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East remains essential in all fields of operation;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, as well as to all of the staff of the Agency, for their tireless efforts and valuable work, particularly in the light of the difficult conditions and dangerous circumstances faced during the past year, and, on the occasion of her impending retirement, expresses its appreciation to Commissioner-General Karen Koning AbuZayd for her nine years of dedicated service to the Palestine refugees;

3. *Expresses special commendation* to the Agency on the occasion of the sixtieth anniversary of its establishment;

4. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Advisory Commission of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, and requests it to continue its efforts and to keep the General Assembly informed of its activities;

5. *Takes note with appreciation* of the two reports of the Working Group on the Financing of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East[57] and the efforts of the Working Group to assist in ensuring the financial security of the Agency, and requests the Secretary-General to provide the necessary services and assistance to the Working Group for the conduct of its work;

6. *Commends* the Agency's six-year Medium-Term Strategy, commencing in January 2010, and the continuing efforts of the Commissioner-General to increase the budgetary transparency and efficiency of the Agency, as reflected in the Agency's programme budget for the biennium 2010–2011[58] and its comprehensive, three-year organizational development plan;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to support the institutional strengthening of the Agency through the provision of sufficient financial resources from the regular budget of the United Nations;

8. *Endorses* the conclusions in the report of the extraordinary meeting of the Working Group on the Financing of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East,[59] in particular its request that the Secretary-General provide a report on the strengthening of the management capacity of the Agency to the relevant bodies of the General Assembly at the earliest possible date;

9. *Also endorses* the efforts of the Commissioner-General to continue to provide humanitarian assistance, as far as practicable, on an emergency basis, and as a temporary measure, to persons in the area who are internally displaced and in serious need of continued assistance as a result of recent crises in the Occupied Palestinian Territory and Lebanon;

10. *Welcomes* the pledges made at the International Donor Conference for the Recovery and Reconstruction of the Nahr el-Bared Palestine Refugee Camp and Conflict-affected Areas of Northern Lebanon, held in Vienna on 23 June 2008, and urges all parties to expedite the reconstruction of the camp to alleviate the ongoing suffering of the displaced persons;

11. *Acknowledges* the important support provided by the host Governments to the Agency in the discharge of its duties;

12. *Encourages* the Agency, in close cooperation with other relevant United Nations entities, to continue making progress in addressing the needs and rights of children and women in its operations in accordance with the Convention on the Rights of the Child[60] and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[61] respectively;

13. *Expresses concern* about the relocation of the international staff of the Agency from its headquarters in Gaza City and the disruption of operations at the headquarters due to the deterioration and instability of the situation on the ground;

14. *Calls upon* Israel, the occupying Power, to comply fully with the provisions of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949;[53]

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[56] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 13* (A/49/13), annex I.

[57] A/64/115 and A/64/519.

[58] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 13A* (A/64/13/Add.1).

[59] A/64/115.

[60] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[61] Ibid., vol. 1249, No. 20378.

15. *Also calls upon* Israel to abide by Articles 100, 104 and 105 of the Charter of the United Nations and the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations[51] in order to ensure the safety of the personnel of the Agency, the protection of its institutions and the safeguarding of the security of its facilities in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem;

16. *Urges* the Government of Israel to speedily compensate the Agency for damage and destruction to its property and facilities resulting from actions by the Israeli side, including as a result of the military operations in the Gaza Strip between December 2008 and January 2009, and to expeditiously reimburse the Agency for all transit charges incurred and other financial losses sustained as a result of delays and restrictions on movement and access imposed by Israel;

17. *Calls upon* Israel particularly to cease obstructing the movement and access of the staff, vehicles and supplies of the Agency and to cease the levying of extra fees and charges, which affect the Agency's operations detrimentally;

18. *Also calls upon* Israel to cease its obstruction of the import of necessary construction materials and supplies for the reconstruction and repair of damaged or destroyed Agency facilities and for the implementation of suspended civilian infrastructure projects in refugee camps in the Gaza Strip;

19. *Requests* the Commissioner-General to proceed with the issuance of identification cards for Palestine refugees and their descendants in the Occupied Palestinian Territory;

20. *Notes with appreciation* the progress made by the Agency in the modernization of its archives through the Palestine Refugee Records Project, and encourages the Commissioner-General to finalize the project as rapidly as possible and to report on the progress made to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session;

21. *Notes* the success of the Agency's microfinance and microenterprise programmes, and calls upon the Agency, in close cooperation with the relevant agencies, to continue to contribute to the development of the economic and social stability of the Palestine refugees in all fields of operation;

22. *Reiterates its appeals* to all States, specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations to continue and to augment the special allocations for grants and scholarships for higher education to Palestine refugees in addition to their contributions to the regular budget of the Agency and to contribute to the establishment of vocational training centres for Palestine refugees, and requests the Agency to act as the recipient and trustee for the special allocations for grants and scholarships;

23. *Urges* all States, specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations to continue and to increase their contributions to the Agency so as to ease the ongoing financial constraints, especially with respect to the Agency's regular budget deficit, noting that financial shortfalls have been exacerbated by the current humanitarian situation on the ground that has resulted in rising expenditures, in particular with regard to emergency services, and to support the Agency's valuable and necessary work in assisting the Palestine refugees in all fields of operation.

RESOLUTION 64/90

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 10 December 2009, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/405, para. 16),[62] by a recorded vote of 168 to 6, with 3 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Palau, United States of America

Abstaining: Cameroon, Fiji, Vanuatu

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[62] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Algeria, Austria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belgium, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Comoros, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Egypt, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guinea, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Jordan, Kuwait, Latvia, Lebanon, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Morocco, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Oman, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen and Palestine.

64/90. Palestine refugees' properties and their revenues

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 194 (III) of 11 December 1948 and 36/146 C of 16 December 1981 and all its subsequent resolutions on the question,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to its resolution 63/94 of 5 December 2008,[63] as well as that of the United Nations Conciliation Commission for Palestine for the period from 1 September 2008 to 31 August 2009,[64]

Recalling that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[65] and the principles of international law uphold the principle that no one shall be arbitrarily deprived of his or her property,

Recalling in particular its resolution 394 (V) of 14 December 1950, in which it directed the Conciliation Commission, in consultation with the parties concerned, to prescribe measures for the protection of the rights, property and interests of the Palestine refugees,

Noting the completion of the programme of identification and evaluation of Arab property, as announced by the Conciliation Commission in its twenty-second progress report,[66] and the fact that the Land Office had a schedule of Arab owners and a file of documents defining the location, area and other particulars of Arab property,

Expressing its appreciation for the preservation and modernization of the existing records, including the land records, of the Conciliation Commission and the importance of such records for a just resolution of the plight of the Palestine refugees in conformity with resolution 194 (III),

Recalling that, in the framework of the Middle East peace process, the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Government of Israel agreed, in the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements of 13 September 1993,[67] to commence negotiations on permanent status issues, including the important issue of the refugees,

1. *Reaffirms* that the Palestine refugees are entitled to their property and to the income derived therefrom, in conformity with the principles of equity and justice;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all appropriate steps, in consultation with the United Nations Conciliation Commission for Palestine, for the protection of Arab property, assets and property rights in Israel;

3. *Calls once again upon* Israel to render all facilities and assistance to the Secretary-General in the implementation of the present resolution;

4. *Calls upon* all the parties concerned to provide the Secretary-General with any pertinent information in their possession concerning Arab property, assets and property rights in Israel that would assist him in the implementation of the present resolution;

5. *Urges* the Palestinian and Israeli sides, as agreed between them, to deal with the important issue of Palestine refugees' properties and their revenues within the framework of the final status negotiations of the Middle East peace process;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 64/91

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 10 December 2009, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/406, para. 16),[68] by a recorded vote of 92 to 9, with 74 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Chile, China, Comoros, Congo, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Eritrea, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Australia, Canada, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Palau, Panama, United States of America

Abstaining: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Austria, Bahamas, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cameroon, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, El Salvador, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji,

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[63] A/64/324.

[64] See A/64/174.

[65] Resolution 217 A (III).

[66] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Nineteenth Session, Annexes*, Annex No. 11, document A/5700.

[67] A/48/486-S/26560, annex.

[68] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Egypt, Guinea, Indonesia, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Nicaragua, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen and Palestine.

Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Vanuatu

64/91. Work of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Guided also by international humanitarian law, in particular the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War of 12 August 1949,[69] as well as international standards of human rights, in particular the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[70] and the International Covenants on Human Rights,[71]

Recalling its relevant resolutions, including resolutions 2443 (XXIII) of 19 December 1968 and 63/95 of 5 December 2008, and the relevant resolutions of the Commission on Human Rights and the Human Rights Council, including the resolution adopted by the Council at its twelfth special session on 16 October 2009,[72]

Recalling also the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

Taking into account the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice on the *Legal Consequences of the Construction of a Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory*,[73] and recalling in this regard General Assembly resolution ES-10/15 of 20 July 2004,

Convinced that occupation itself represents a gross and grave violation of human rights,

Gravely concerned about the continuing detrimental impact of the events that have taken place since 28 September 2000, including the excessive use of force by the Israeli occupying forces against Palestinian civilians, resulting in thousands of deaths and injuries, the widespread destruction of property and vital infrastructure, the internal displacement of civilians, the imposition of collective punishment measures, particularly against the civilian population in the Gaza Strip, and the detention and imprisonment of thousands of Palestinians,

Gravely concerned in particular by reports regarding serious human rights violations and grave breaches of international humanitarian law committed during the military operations in the Gaza Strip between December 2008 and January 2009, including the findings in the summary by the Secretary-General of the report of the Board of Inquiry[74] and in the report of the United Nations Fact-Finding Mission on the Gaza Conflict,[75] and stressing the necessity for serious follow-up by all parties to the recommendations addressed to them towards ensuring accountability and justice,

Having considered the report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories[76] and the relevant reports of the Secretary-General,[77]

Recalling the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements of 13 September 1993[78] and the subsequent implementation agreements between the Palestinian and Israeli sides,

Stressing the urgency of bringing a complete end to the Israeli occupation that began in 1967 and thus an end to the violation of the human rights of the Palestinian people, and recalling in this regard its resolution 58/292 of 6 May 2004,

1. *Commends* the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories for its efforts in performing the tasks assigned to it by the General Assembly and for its impartiality;

2. *Reiterates its demand* that Israel, the occupying Power, cooperate, in accordance with its obligations as a State Member of the United Nations, with the Special Committee in implementing its mandate;

3. *Deplores* those policies and practices of Israel that violate the human rights of the Palestinian people and other Arabs of the occupied territories, as reflected in the report of the Special Committee covering the reporting period;[76]

4. *Expresses grave concern* about the critical situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, particularly in the Gaza Strip, as a result of unlawful Israeli practices and measures, and especially condemns and calls for

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[69] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

[70] Resolution 217 A (III).

[71] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[72] Resolution S-12/1; see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/64/53/Add.1).

[73] See A/ES-10/273 and Corr.1; see also *Legal Consequences of the Construction of a Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, Advisory Opinion, I.C.J. Reports 2004*, p. 136.

[74] See A/63/855-S/2009/250.

[75] A/HRC/12/48.

[76] See A/64/339.

[77] A/64/332, A/64/340, A/64/354, A/64/516 and A/64/517.

[78] A/48/486-S/26560, annex.

the immediate cessation of all illegal Israeli settlement activities and the construction of the wall, as well as the excessive and indiscriminate use of force against the civilian population, the destruction and confiscation of properties, measures of collective punishment, and the detention and imprisonment of thousands of civilians;

5. *Requests* the Special Committee, pending complete termination of the Israeli occupation, to continue to investigate Israeli policies and practices in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967, especially Israeli violations of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War of 12 August 1949,[60] and to consult, as appropriate, with the International Committee of the Red Cross according to its regulations in order to ensure that the welfare and human rights of the peoples of the occupied territories are safeguarded and to report to the Secretary-General as soon as possible and whenever the need arises thereafter;

6. *Also requests* the Special Committee to submit regularly to the Secretary-General periodic reports on the current situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem;

7. *Further requests* the Special Committee to continue to investigate the treatment of the thousands of prisoners and detainees in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

(*a*) To provide the Special Committee with all necessary facilities, including those required for its visits to the occupied territories, so that it may investigate the Israeli policies and practices referred to in the present resolution;

(*b*) To continue to make available such staff as may be necessary to assist the Special Committee in the performance of its tasks;

(*c*) To circulate regularly to Member States the periodic reports mentioned in paragraph 6 above;

(*d*) To ensure the widest circulation of the reports of the Special Committee and of information regarding its activities and findings, by all means available, through the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat and, where necessary, to reprint those reports of the Special Committee that are no longer available;

(*e*) To report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session on the tasks entrusted to him in the present resolution;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled "Report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories".

RESOLUTION 64/92

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 10 December 2009, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/406, para. 16),[79] by a recorded vote of 168 to 6, with 4 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Palau, United States of America

Abstaining: Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Fiji, Vanuatu

64/92. Applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949, to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and the other occupied Arab territories

The General Assembly,

Recalling its relevant resolutions, including its resolution 63/96 of 5 December 2008,

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[79] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Egypt, Guinea, Indonesia, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Nicaragua, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen and Palestine.

Bearing in mind the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

Recalling the Regulations annexed to The Hague Convention IV of 1907,[80] the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[81] and relevant provisions of customary law, including those codified in Additional Protocol I[82] to the four Geneva Conventions,[83]

Having considered the report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories[84] and the relevant reports of the Secretary-General,[85]

Considering that the promotion of respect for the obligations arising from the Charter of the United Nations and other instruments and rules of international law is among the basic purposes and principles of the United Nations,

Recalling the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice,[86] and also recalling General Assembly resolution ES-10/15 of 20 July 2004,

Noting in particular the Court's reply, including that the Fourth Geneva Convention[81] is applicable in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and that Israel is in breach of several of the provisions of the Convention,

Recalling the Conference of High Contracting Parties to the Fourth Geneva Convention on measures to enforce the Convention in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, held on 15 July 1999, as well as the Declaration adopted by the reconvened Conference on 5 December 2001 and the need for the parties to follow up the implementation of the Declaration,

Welcoming and encouraging the initiatives by States parties to the Convention, both individually and collectively, according to article 1 common to the four Geneva Conventions, aimed at ensuring respect for the Convention, as well as the efforts of the depositary State of the Geneva Conventions in this regard,

Stressing that Israel, the occupying Power, should comply strictly with its obligations under international law, including international humanitarian law,

1. *Reaffirms* that the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[81] is applicable to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967;

2. *Demands* that Israel accept the de jure applicability of the Convention in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967, and that it comply scrupulously with the provisions of the Convention;

3. *Calls upon* all High Contracting Parties to the Convention, in accordance with article 1 common to the four Geneva Conventions[83] and as mentioned in the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice of 9 July 2004,[86] to continue to exert all efforts to ensure respect for its provisions by Israel, the occupying Power, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967;

4. *Reiterates* the need for speedy implementation of the relevant recommendations contained in the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth emergency special session, including resolution ES-10/15, with regard to ensuring respect by Israel, the occupying Power, for the provisions of the Convention;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 64/93

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 10 December 2009, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/406, para. 16),[87] by a recorded vote of 167 to 7, with 3 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador,

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[80] See Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, *The Hague Conventions and Declarations of 1899 and 1907* (New York, Oxford University Press, 1915).

[81] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

[82] Ibid., vol. 1125, No. 17512.

[83] Ibid., vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

[84] See A/64/339.

[85] A/64/332, A/64/340, A/64/354, A/64/516 and A/64/517.

[86] See A/ES-10/273 and Corr.1; see also *Legal Consequences of the Construction of a Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, Advisory Opinion, I.C.J. Reports 2004*, p. 136.

[87] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Egypt, Guinea, Indonesia, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mauritania, Morocco, Nicaragua, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen and Palestine.

Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Palau, Panama, United States of America

Abstaining: Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Vanuatu

64/93. Israeli settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and the occupied Syrian Golan

The General Assembly,

Guided by the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, and affirming the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force,

Recalling its relevant resolutions, including resolution 63/97 of 5 December 2008, as well as those resolutions adopted at its tenth emergency special session,

Recalling also the relevant resolutions of the Security Council, including resolutions 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967, 446 (1979) of 22 March 1979, 465 (1980) of 1 March 1980, 476 (1980) of 30 June 1980, 478 (1980) of 20 August 1980, 497 (1981) of 17 December 1981 and 904 (1994) of 18 March 1994,

Reaffirming the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[88] to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and to the occupied Syrian Golan,

Considering that the transfer by the occupying Power of parts of its own civilian population into the territory it occupies constitutes a breach of the Fourth Geneva Convention[88] and relevant provisions of customary law, including those codified in Additional Protocol I[89] to the four Geneva Conventions,[90]

Recalling the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice on the *Legal Consequences of the Construction of a Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory*,[91] and recalling also General Assembly resolutions ES-10/15 of 20 July 2004 and ES-10/17 of 15 December 2006,

Noting that the International Court of Justice concluded that "the Israeli settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory (including East Jerusalem) have been established in breach of international law",[92]

Taking note of the recent report of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territories occupied by Israel since 1967,[93]

Recalling the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements of 13 September 1993[94] and the subsequent implementation agreements between the Palestinian and Israeli sides,

Recalling also the Quartet road map to a permanent two-State solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict,[95] and noting specifically its call for a freeze on all settlement activity, including so-called "natural growth", and the dismantlement of all settlement outposts erected since March 2001,

Aware that Israeli settlement activities involve, inter alia, the transfer of nationals of the occupying Power into the occupied territories, the confiscation of land, the exploitation of natural resources and other actions against the Palestinian civilian population that are contrary to international law,

Bearing in mind the detrimental impact of Israeli settlement policies, decisions and activities on efforts to resume the peace process and to achieve peace in the Middle East,

Expressing grave concern about the continuation by Israel, the occupying Power, of settlement activities in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, in violation of international humanitarian law, relevant United Nations resolutions and the agreements reached between the parties, and concerned particularly about Israel's construction and expansion of settlements in and around occupied East Jerusalem, including its so-called E-1 plan that aims to connect its illegal settlements around and further isolate occupied East Jerusalem, the continuing demolition of Palestinian homes and eviction of Palestinian families from the city, and intensifying settlement activities in the Jordan Valley,

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[88] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

[89] Ibid., vol. 1125, No. 17512.

[90] Ibid., vol. 75, Nos. 970-973.

[91] See A/ES-10/273 and Corr.1; see also *Legal Consequences of the Construction of a Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, Advisory Opinion, I.C.J. Reports 2004*, p. 136.

[92] See A/ES-10/273 and Corr.1, advisory opinion, para. 120; see also *Legal Consequences of the Construction of a Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, Advisory Opinion, I.C.J. Reports 2004*, p. 136.

[93] See A/64/328.

[94] A/48/486-S/26560, annex.

[95] S/2003/529, annex.

Expressing grave concern also about the continuing unlawful construction by Israel of the wall inside the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in and around East Jerusalem, and expressing its concern in particular about the route of the wall in departure from the Armistice Line of 1949, which is causing humanitarian hardship and a serious decline of socio-economic conditions for the Palestinian people, is fragmenting the territorial contiguity of the Territory, and could prejudge future negotiations and make the two-State solution physically impossible to implement,

Deeply concerned that the wall's route has been traced in such a way as to include the great majority of the Israeli settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem,

Deploring settlement activities in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan and any activities involving the confiscation of land, the disruption of the livelihood of protected persons and the de facto annexation of land,

Recalling the need to end all acts of violence, including acts of terror, provocation, incitement and destruction,

Gravely concerned about the rising incidents of violence, harassment, provocation and incitement by illegal armed Israeli settlers in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, against Palestinian civilians and their properties and agricultural lands,

Noting the Israeli withdrawal from within the Gaza Strip and parts of the northern West Bank and the importance of the dismantlement of the settlements therein as a step towards the implementation of the road map,

Taking note of the relevant reports of the Secretary-General,[96]

Taking note also of the special meeting of the Security Council convened on 26 September 2008,

1. *Reaffirms* that the Israeli settlements in the Palestinian territory, including East Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan are illegal and an obstacle to peace and economic and social development;

2. *Calls upon* Israel to accept the de jure applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[98] to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and to the occupied Syrian Golan and to abide scrupulously by the provisions of the Convention, in particular article 49;

3. *Also calls upon* Israel, the occupying Power, to comply strictly with its obligations under international law, including international humanitarian law, with respect to the alteration of the character, status and demographic composition of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem;

4. *Reiterates its demand* for the immediate and complete cessation of all Israeli settlement activities in all of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan, and calls in this regard for the full implementation of the relevant resolutions of the Security Council, including resolution 465 (1980);

5. *Demands* that Israel, the occupying Power, comply with its legal obligations, as mentioned in the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice;[91]

6. *Reiterates its call* for the prevention of all acts of violence and harassment by Israeli settlers, especially against Palestinian civilians and their properties and agricultural lands, and stresses the need for the implementation of Security Council resolution 904 (1994), in which the Council called upon Israel, the occupying Power, to continue to take and implement measures, including confiscation of arms, aimed at preventing illegal acts of violence by Israeli settlers, and called for measures to be taken to guarantee the safety and protection of the Palestinian civilians in the occupied territory;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 64/94

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 10 December 2009, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/406, para. 16),[97] by a recorded vote of 162 to 9, with 5 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras,

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[96] A/64/332, A/64/340, A/64/354, A/64/516 and A/64/517.

[97] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Egypt, Guinea, Indonesia, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Nicaragua, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen and Palestine.

Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Australia, Canada, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Palau, Panama, United States of America

Abstaining: Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Fiji, Liberia, Vanuatu

64/94. Israeli practices affecting the human rights of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[98]

Recalling also the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[99] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights[99] and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[100] and affirming that these human rights instruments must be respected in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem,

Reaffirming its relevant resolutions, including resolution 63/98 of 5 December 2008, as well as those adopted at its tenth emergency special session,

Recalling the relevant resolutions of the Commission on Human Rights and the Human Rights Council,

Recalling also the relevant resolutions of the Security Council, and stressing the need for their implementation,

Having considered the report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories[101] and the report of the Secretary-General,[102]

Taking note of the recent reports of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territories occupied since 1967,[103]

Recalling the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice,[104] and recalling also General Assembly resolutions ES-10/15 of 20 July 2004 and ES-10/17 of 15 December 2006,

Noting in particular the Court's reply, including that the construction of the wall being built by Israel, the occupying Power, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in and around East Jerusalem, and its associated regime are contrary to international law,

Aware of the responsibility of the international community to promote human rights and ensure respect for international law, and recalling in this regard its resolution 2625 (XXV) of 24 October 1970,

Reaffirming the principle of the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force,

Reaffirming also the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[105] to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967,

Reaffirming further the obligation of the States parties to the Fourth Geneva Convention[105] under articles 146, 147 and 148 with regard to penal sanctions, grave breaches and responsibilities of the High Contracting Parties,

Reaffirming that all States have the right and the duty to take actions in conformity with international law and international humanitarian law to counter deadly acts of violence against their civilian population in order to protect the lives of their citizens,

Stressing the need for full compliance with the Israeli-Palestinian agreements reached within the context of the Middle East peace process, including the Sharm el-Sheikh understandings, and the implementation of the Quartet road map to a permanent two-State solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict,[106]

Stressing also the need for the full implementation of the Agreement on Movement and Access and the Agreed Principles for the Rafah Crossing, both of 15 November 2005, to allow for the freedom of movement of the Palestinian civilian population within and into and out of the Gaza Strip,

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[98] Resolution 217 A (III).

[99] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[100] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[101] See A/64/339.

[102] A/64/517.

[103] A/HRC/10/20; see also A/64/328.

[104] See A/ES-10/273 and Corr.1; see also *Legal Consequences of the Construction of a Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, Advisory Opinion, I.C.J. Reports 2004*, p. 136.

[105] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

[106] S/2003/529, annex.

Expressing grave concern about the continuing systematic violation of the human rights of the Palestinian people by Israel, the occupying Power, including that arising from the excessive use of force, the use of collective punishment, the closure of areas, the confiscation of land, the establishment and expansion of settlements, the construction of a wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory in departure from the Armistice Line of 1949, the destruction of property and infrastructure, and all other actions by it designed to change the legal status, geographical nature and demographic composition of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem,

Gravely concerned about the military actions that have been carried out since 28 September 2000 and that have led to thousands of deaths among Palestinian civilians, including hundreds of children, and tens of thousands of injuries,

Gravely concerned in particular about the continuing deterioration in the humanitarian and security situation in the Gaza Strip, including that resulting from the prolonged closures and severe economic and movement restrictions that in effect amount to a blockade and the military operations between December 2008 and January 2009, which caused extensive loss of life and injury, particularly among Palestinian civilians, including children and women; widespread destruction and damage to Palestinian homes, properties, vital infrastructure and public institutions, including hospitals, schools and United Nations facilities; and the internal displacement of civilians, as well as from the firing of rockets into Israel,

Stressing the need for the full implementation by all parties of Security Council resolution 1860 (2009) of 8 January 2009 and General Assembly resolution ES-10/18 of 16 January 2009,

Gravely concerned by reports regarding serious human rights violations and grave breaches of international humanitarian law committed during the military operations in the Gaza Strip between December 2008 and January 2009, including the findings in the summary by the Secretary-General of the report of the Board of Inquiry[107] and in the report of the United Nations Fact-finding Mission on the Gaza Conflict,[108] and stressing the necessity for serious follow-up by all parties to the recommendations addressed to them towards ensuring accountability and justice,

Expressing deep concern about the short- and long-term detrimental impact of such widespread destruction and the impeding of the reconstruction process by Israel, the occupying Power, on the human rights situation and on the socio-economic and humanitarian conditions of the Palestinian civilian population,

Expressing deep concern also about the Israeli policy of closures, severe restrictions, and a permit regime that obstruct the freedom of movement of persons and goods, including medical and humanitarian personnel and goods, throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and about the consequent violation of the human rights of the Palestinian people and the negative impact on their socio-economic situation, which remains that of a dire humanitarian crisis, particularly in the Gaza Strip,

Concerned in particular about the continued establishment of Israeli checkpoints in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and the transformation of several of these checkpoints into structures akin to permanent border crossings inside the Occupied Palestinian Territory, which are severely impairing the territorial contiguity of the Territory and undermining efforts and aid aimed at rehabilitating and developing the Palestinian economy, adversely affecting other aspects of the socio-economic conditions of the Palestinian people,

Expressing deep concern that thousands of Palestinians, including hundreds of children and women, continue to be held in Israeli prisons or detention centres under harsh conditions that impair their well-being, and expressing concern about the ill-treatment and harassment of any Palestinian prisoners and all reports of torture,

Convinced of the need for an international presence to monitor the situation, to contribute to ending the violence and protecting the Palestinian civilian population and to help the parties implement the agreements reached, and, in this regard, recalling the positive contribution of the Temporary International Presence in Hebron,

Emphasizing the right of all people in the region to the enjoyment of human rights as enshrined in the international human rights covenants,

1. *Reiterates* that all measures and actions taken by Israel, the occupying Power, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, in violation of the relevant provisions of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[105] and contrary to the relevant resolutions of the Security Council, are illegal and have no validity;

2. *Demands* that Israel, the occupying Power, cease all practices and actions that violate the human rights of the Palestinian people, including the killing and injury of civilians, and that it respect human rights law and comply with its legal obligations in this regard;

3. *Also demands* that Israel, the occupying Power, comply fully with the provisions of the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949[105] and cease immediately all measures and actions taken in violation and in breach of the Convention, including all of its settlement activities and the construction of the wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in and

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[107] See A/63/855-S/2009/250.

[108] A/HRC/12/48.

around East Jerusalem, which, inter alia, gravely and detrimentally impact the human rights of the Palestinian people;

4. *Condemns* all acts of violence, including all acts of terror, provocation, incitement and destruction, especially the excessive use of force by the Israeli occupying forces against Palestinian civilians, particularly in the Gaza Strip in the recent period, which have caused extensive loss of life and vast numbers of injuries, including among children, massive damage and destruction to homes, properties, vital infrastructure and public institutions, including hospitals, schools and United Nations facilities, and agricultural lands, and internal displacement of civilians;

5. *Expresses grave concern* at the firing of rockets against Israeli civilian areas resulting in loss of life and injury;

6. *Reiterates its demand* for the full implementation of Security Council resolution 1860 (2009);

7. *Calls upon* Israel, the occupying Power, to comply strictly with its obligations under international law, including international humanitarian law, with respect to the alteration of the character, status and demographic composition of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem;

8. *Demands* that Israel, the occupying Power, comply with its legal obligations under international law, as mentioned in the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice[108] and as demanded in resolutions ES-10/15 of 20 July 2004 and ES-10/13 of 21 October 2003, and that it immediately cease the construction of the wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in and around East Jerusalem, dismantle forthwith the structure situated therein, repeal or render ineffective all legislative and regulatory acts relating thereto, and make reparation for all damage caused by the construction of the wall, which has gravely impacted the human rights and the socio-economic living conditions of the Palestinian people;

9. *Reiterates* the need for respect for the territorial unity, contiguity and integrity of all of the Occupied Palestinian Territory and for guarantees of the freedom of movement of persons and goods within the Palestinian territory, including movement into and from East Jerusalem, into and from the Gaza Strip, and to and from the outside world;

10. *Calls upon* Israel, the occupying Power, to cease its imposition of prolonged closures and economic and movement restrictions, including those amounting to a blockade on the Gaza Strip, and, in this regard, to fully implement the Agreement on Movement and Access and the Agreed Principles for the Rafah Crossing, both of 15 November 2005;

11. *Urges* Member States to continue to provide emergency assistance to the Palestinian people to alleviate the financial crisis and the dire socio-economic and humanitarian situation, particularly in the Gaza Strip;

12. *Emphasizes* the need to preserve and develop the Palestinian institutions and infrastructure for the provision of vital public services to the Palestinian civilian population and the promotion of human rights, including civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 64/95

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 10 December 2009, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/406, para. 16),[109] by a recorded vote of 166 to 1, with 11 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel

Abstaining: Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Fiji, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Palau, Panama, Tonga, United States of America, Vanuatu

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[109] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Egypt, Guinea, Indonesia, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Mauritania, Morocco, Nicaragua, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen and Palestine.

64/95. The occupied Syrian Golan

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories,[110]

Deeply concerned that the Syrian Golan, occupied since 1967, has been under continued Israeli military occupation,

Recalling Security Council resolution 497 (1981) of 17 December 1981,

Recalling also its previous relevant resolutions, the most recent of which was resolution 63/99 of 5 December 2008,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General submitted in pursuance of resolution 63/99,[111]

Recalling its previous relevant resolutions in which, inter alia, it called upon Israel to put an end to its occupation of the Arab territories,

Reaffirming once more the illegality of the decision of 14 December 1981 taken by Israel to impose its laws, jurisdiction and administration on the occupied Syrian Golan, which has resulted in the effective annexation of that territory,

Reaffirming that the acquisition of territory by force is inadmissible under international law, including the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming also the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[112] to the occupied Syrian Golan,

Bearing in mind Security Council resolution 237 (1967) of 14 June 1967,

Welcoming the convening at Madrid of the Peace Conference on the Middle East on the basis of Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967 and 338 (1973) of 22 October 1973 aimed at the realization of a just, comprehensive and lasting peace, and expressing grave concern about the stalling of the peace process on all tracks,

1. *Calls upon* Israel, the occupying Power, to comply with the relevant resolutions on the occupied Syrian Golan, in particular Security Council resolution 497 (1981), in which the Council, inter alia, decided that the Israeli decision to impose its laws, jurisdiction and administration on the occupied Syrian Golan was null and void and without international legal effect and demanded that Israel, the occupying Power, rescind forthwith its decision;

2. *Also calls upon* Israel to desist from changing the physical character, demographic composition, institutional structure and legal status of the occupied Syrian Golan and in particular to desist from the establishment of settlements;

3. *Determines* that all legislative and administrative measures and actions taken or to be taken by Israel, the occupying Power, that purport to alter the character and legal status of the occupied Syrian Golan are null and void, constitute a flagrant violation of international law and of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[112] and have no legal effect;

4. *Calls upon* Israel to desist from imposing Israeli citizenship and Israeli identity cards on the Syrian citizens in the occupied Syrian Golan, and from its repressive measures against the population of the occupied Syrian Golan;

5. *Deplores* the violations by Israel of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949;

6. *Calls once again upon* Member States not to recognize any of the legislative or administrative measures and actions referred to above;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTIONS 64/96 A and B

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 10 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/408, para. 12)[113]

64/96. Questions relating to information

A

INFORMATION IN THE SERVICE OF HUMANITY

The General Assembly,

Taking note of the comprehensive and important report of the Committee on Information,[114]

Also taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on questions relating to information,[115]

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[110] See A/64/339.

[111] A/64/354.

[112] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

[113] The draft resolutions recommended in the report of the Fourth Committee were submitted by the Committee on Information.

[114] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 21* (A/64/21).

[115] A/64/262.

Urges all countries, organizations of the United Nations system as a whole and all others concerned, reaffirming their commitment to the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and to the principles of freedom of the press and freedom of information, as well as to those of the independence, pluralism and diversity of the media, deeply concerned by the disparities existing between developed and developing countries and the consequences of every kind arising from those disparities that affect the capability of the public, private or other media and individuals in developing countries to disseminate information and communicate their views and their cultural and ethical values through endogenous cultural production, as well as to ensure the diversity of sources and their free access to information, and recognizing the call in this context for what in the United Nations and at various international forums has been termed "a new world information and communication order, seen as an evolving and continuous process":

(*a*) To cooperate and interact with a view to reducing existing disparities in information flows at all levels by increasing assistance for the development of communications infrastructures and capabilities in developing countries, with due regard for their needs and the priorities attached to such areas by those countries, and in order to enable them and the public, private or other media in developing countries to develop their own information and communications policies freely and independently and increase the participation of media and individuals in the communication process, and to ensure a free flow of information at all levels;

(*b*) To ensure for journalists the free and effective performance of their professional tasks and condemn resolutely all attacks against them;

(*c*) To provide support for the continuation and strengthening of practical training programmes for broadcasters and journalists from public, private and other media in developing countries;

(*d*) To enhance regional efforts and cooperation among developing countries, as well as cooperation between developed and developing countries, to strengthen communications capacities and to improve the media infrastructure and communications technology in the developing countries, especially in the areas of training and dissemination of information;

(*e*) To aim at, in addition to bilateral cooperation, providing all possible support and assistance to the developing countries and their media, public, private or other, with due regard to their interests and needs in the field of information and to action already adopted within the United Nations system, including:

(i) The development of the human and technical resources that are indispensable for the improvement of information and communications systems in developing countries and support for the continuation and strengthening of practical training programmes, such as those already operating under both public and private auspices throughout the developing world;

(ii) The creation of conditions that will enable developing countries and their media, public, private or other, to have, by using their national and regional resources, the communications technology suited to their national needs, as well as the necessary programme material, especially for radio and television broadcasting;

(iii) Assistance in establishing and promoting telecommunication links at the subregional, regional and interregional levels, especially among developing countries;

(iv) The facilitation, as appropriate, of access by the developing countries to advanced communications technology available on the open market;

(*f*) To provide full support for the International Programme for the Development of Communication of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization,[116] which should support both public and private media.

B

UNITED NATIONS PUBLIC INFORMATION POLICIES AND ACTIVITIES

The General Assembly,

Emphasizing the role of the Committee on Information as its main subsidiary body mandated to make recommendations to it relating to the work of the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat,

Reaffirming its resolution 13 (I) of 13 February 1946, establishing the Department of Public Information, which states in paragraph 2 of annex I that "the activities of the Department should be so organized and directed as to promote to the greatest possible extent an informed understanding of the work and purposes of the United Nations among the peoples of the world",

Emphasizing that the contents of public information and communications should be placed at the heart of the strategic management of the United Nations and that a culture of communications and transparency should permeate all levels of the Organization, as a means of fully informing the peoples of the world of the aims and activities of the United Nations, in accordance with the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, in order to create broad-based global support for the United Nations,

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[116] See United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Twenty-first Session, Belgrade, 23 September–28 October 1980*, vol. I, *Resolutions*, sect. III.4, resolution 4/21.

Stressing that the primary mission of the Department of Public Information is to provide, through its outreach activities, accurate, impartial, comprehensive, balanced, timely and relevant information to the public on the tasks and responsibilities of the United Nations in order to strengthen international support for the activities of the Organization with the greatest transparency,

Recalling the comprehensive review of the work of the Department of Public Information, requested by the General Assembly in its resolution 56/253 of 24 December 2001, as well as the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Strengthening of the United Nations: an agenda for further change"[117] and Assembly resolutions 57/300 of 20 December 2002 and 60/109 B of 8 December 2005, which provided an opportunity to take due steps to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of the Department and to maximize the use of its resources,

Expressing its concern that the gap in information and communications technology between the developed and the developing countries has continued to widen and that vast segments of the population in developing countries are not benefiting from the present information and communications technologies, and, in this regard, underlining the necessity of rectifying the imbalances in the present development of information and communications technologies in order to make it more just, equitable and effective,

Recognizing that developments in information and communications technologies open vast new opportunities for economic growth and social development and can play an important role in the eradication of poverty in developing countries, and, at the same time, emphasizing that the development of these technologies poses challenges and risks and could lead to the further widening of disparities between and within countries,

Recalling its resolution 61/266 of 16 May 2007 on multilingualism, and emphasizing the importance of making appropriate use of the official languages of the United Nations in the activities of the Department of Public Information, with the aim of eliminating the disparity between the use of English and the five other official languages,

Welcoming Sierra Leone to membership in the Committee on Information,

I

Introduction

1. *Reaffirms* its resolution 13 (I), in which it established the Department of Public Information, and all other relevant resolutions of the General Assembly related to the activities of the Department, and requests the Secretary-General, in respect of the public information policies and activities of the United Nations, to continue to implement fully the recommendations contained in paragraph 2 of its resolution 48/44 B of 10 December 1993 and other mandates as established by the General Assembly;

2. *Also reaffirms* that the United Nations remains the indispensable foundation of a peaceful and just world and that its voice must be heard in a clear and effective manner, and emphasizes the essential role of the Department of Public Information in this context;

3. *Stresses* the importance of the provision of clear, timely, accurate and comprehensive information by the Secretariat to Member States, upon their request, within the framework of existing mandates and procedures;

4. *Reaffirms* the central role of the Committee on Information in United Nations public information policies and activities, including the prioritization of those activities, and decides that recommendations relating to the programme of the Department of Public Information shall originate, to the extent possible, in the Committee and shall be considered by the Committee;

5. *Requests* the Department of Public Information, following the priorities laid down by the General Assembly in its resolution 63/247 of 24 December 2008, and guided by the United Nations Millennium Declaration[118] and reaffirming the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[119] to pay particular attention to peace and security, development and human rights and to major issues such as the eradication of poverty, including the global food crisis, conflict prevention, sustainable development, the HIV/AIDS epidemic, combating terrorism in all its forms and manifestations and the needs of the African continent;

6. *Also requests* the Department of Public Information to pay particular attention to progress in implementing the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration, and the outcomes of the major related United Nations summits and conferences in carrying out its activities, and calls upon the Department to play an active role in raising public awareness of the world financial and economic crisis and its impact on development, including the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;

7. *Further requests* the Department of Public Information and its network of United Nations information centres to play an active role in raising public awareness of the global challenge of climate change, and encourages the Department to pay particular attention to the actions taken in the framework of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,[120] in accordance with the principles of

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[117] A/57/387 and Corr.1.

[118] See resolution 55/2.

[119] See resolution 60/1.

[120] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

common but differentiated responsibilities, especially in the context of the Conference of the Parties and of the Meetings of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol[121] held in Poznan, Poland, from 1 to 12 December 2008, and to be held in Copenhagen from 7 to 18 December 2009;

8. *Reaffirms* the need to enhance the technological infrastructure of the Department of Public Information on a continuous basis in order to widen its outreach and to continue to improve the United Nations website;

II

General activities of the Department of Public Information

9. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Department of Public Information;[122]

10. *Requests* the Department of Public Information to maintain its commitment to a culture of evaluation and to continue to evaluate its products and activities with the objective of enhancing their effectiveness, and to continue to cooperate and coordinate with Member States and the Office of Internal Oversight Services of the Secretariat;

11. *Reaffirms* the importance of more effective coordination between the Department of Public Information and the Office of the Spokesperson for the Secretary-General, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure consistency in the messages of the Organization;

12. *Notes* the efforts of the Department of Public Information to continue to publicize the work and decisions of the General Assembly, and requests the Department to continue to enhance its working relationship with the Office of the President of the General Assembly;

13. *Encourages* continued collaboration between the Department of Public Information and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in the promotion of culture and in the fields of education and communication, bridging the existing gap between the developed and the developing countries;

14. *Notes with appreciation* the efforts of the Department of Public Information to work at the local level with other organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to enhance the coordination of their communications activities, and requests the Secretary-General to report to the Committee on Information at its thirty-second session on progress achieved in this regard and on the activities of the United Nations Communications Group;

15. *Reaffirms* that the Department of Public Information must prioritize its work programme, while respecting existing mandates and in line with regulation 5.6 of the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation,[123] to focus its message and better concentrate its efforts and to match its programmes with the needs of its target audiences, on the basis of improved feedback and evaluation mechanisms;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to exert all efforts to ensure that publications and other information services of the Secretariat, including the United Nations website and the United Nations News Service, contain comprehensive, balanced, objective and equitable information in all official languages about the issues before the Organization and that they maintain editorial independence, impartiality, accuracy and full consistency with resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly;

17. *Requests* the Department of Public Information and content-providing offices of the Secretariat to ensure that United Nations publications are produced in a cost-effective and environmentally friendly manner and to continue to coordinate closely with all other entities, including all other departments of the Secretariat and funds and programmes of the United Nations system, in order to avoid duplication, within their respective mandates, in the issuance of United Nations publications;

18. *Emphasizes* that the Department of Public Information should maintain and improve its activities in the areas of special interest to developing countries and, where appropriate, other countries with special needs, and that the activities of the Department should contribute to bridging the existing gap between the developing and the developed countries in the crucial field of public information and communications;

19. *Notes* the issuance of daily press releases, and reiterates its request to the Department of Public Information to continue to improve their production process and streamline their format, structure and length, keeping in mind the views of Member States, including their views on expanding them to the other official languages;

Multilingualism and public information

20. *Emphasizes* the importance of making appropriate use and ensuring equitable treatment of all the official languages of the United Nations in all the activities of the Department of Public Information, including in presentations to the Committee on Information, with the aim of eliminating the disparity between the use of English and the five other official languages;

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[121] Ibid., vol. 2303, No. 30822.

[122] A/AC.198/2009/2-4.

[123] ST/SGB/2000/8.

21. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to ensure that the Department of Public Information has appropriate staffing capacity in all the official languages of the United Nations to undertake all its activities and to include this aspect in future programme budget proposals for the Department, bearing in mind the principle of parity of all six official languages, while respecting the workload in each official language;

22. *Welcomes* the ongoing efforts of the Department of Public Information to enhance multilingualism in all its activities, and stresses the importance of fully implementing resolution 61/266 by ensuring that the texts of all new public documents in all six official languages and information materials of the United Nations are made available daily through the United Nations website and are accessible to Member States without delay;

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue towards completion of the task of uploading all important older United Nations documents on the United Nations website in all six official languages on a priority basis, so that these archives are also available to Member States through that medium;

Bridging the digital divide

24. *Recalls with satisfaction* its resolution 60/252 of 27 March 2006, in which it endorsed the Tunis Commitment and the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society,[124] as adopted at the second phase of the World Summit on the Information Society, held in Tunis from 16 to 18 November 2005, and proclaimed 17 May annual World Information Society Day, recalls the adoption of the Declaration of Principles and the Plan of Action[125] at the first phase of the World Summit on the Information Society, held in Geneva from 10 to 12 December 2003, and in this regard requests the Department of Public Information to contribute to the celebration of this event and to play a role in raising awareness of the possibilities that the use of the Internet and other information and communications technologies can bring to societies and economies, as well as of ways to bridge the digital divide;

25. *Calls upon* the Department of Public Information to contribute to raising the awareness of the international community of the importance of the implementation of the outcome documents of the World Summit on the Information Society;

Network of United Nations information centres

26. *Emphasizes* the importance of the network of United Nations information centres in enhancing the public image of the United Nations and in disseminating messages on the United Nations to local populations, especially in developing countries;

27. *Welcomes* the work done by the network of United Nations information centres in favour of the publication of United Nations information materials and the translation of important documents into languages other than the official languages of the United Nations, encourages the network of United Nations information centres to continue to develop web pages in local languages, and the Department of Public Information to provide necessary resources and technical facilities, with a view to reaching the widest possible spectrum of audiences and extending the United Nations message to all the corners of the world in order to strengthen international support for the activities of the Organization, and encourages the continuation of efforts in this regard;

28. *Stresses* the importance of rationalizing the network of United Nations information centres, and, in this regard, requests the Secretary-General to continue to make proposals in this direction, including through the redeployment of resources where necessary, and to report to the Committee on Information at its successive sessions;

29. *Reaffirms* that the rationalization of United Nations information centres must be carried out on a case-by-case basis in consultation with all concerned Member States in which existing information centres are located, the countries served by those information centres and other interested countries in the region, taking into consideration the distinctive characteristics of each region;

30. *Recognizes* that the network of United Nations information centres, especially in developing countries, should continue to enhance its impact and activities, including through strategic communications support, and calls upon the Secretary-General to report on the implementation of this approach to the Committee on Information at its successive sessions;

31. *Encourages* the Department of Public Information, through the information centres, to strengthen its cooperation with all other United Nations entities at the country level, in order to enhance coherence in communications and to avoid duplication of work;

32. *Stresses* the importance of taking into account the special needs and requirements of developing countries in the field of information and communications technology for the effective flow of information in those countries;

33. *Also stresses* that the Department of Public Information, through the network of United Nations information centres, should continue to promote public awareness of and mobilize support for the work of the United Nations at the local level, bearing in mind that information in local languages has the strongest impact on local populations;

34. *Further stresses* the importance of efforts to strengthen the outreach activities of the United Nations to those

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[124] See A/60/687.

[125] See A/C.2/59/3, annex.

Member States remaining outside the network of United Nations information centres, and encourages the Secretary-General, within the context of rationalization, to extend the services of the network of United Nations information centres to those Member States;

35. *Stresses* that the Department of Public Information should continue to review the allocation of both staff and financial resources to the United Nations information centres in developing countries, emphasizing the needs of the least developed countries;

36. *Takes note* of the proposal by the Secretary-General to work closely with the Governments concerned to explore the possibility of identifying rent-free premises, while taking into account the economic condition of the host countries and bearing in mind that such support should not be a substitute for the full allocation of financial resources for the information centres in the context of the programme budget of the United Nations, and encourages host countries to respond to the needs of the United Nations information centres;

37. *Also takes note* of the strengthening of the information centres in Cairo, Mexico City and Pretoria, and encourages the Secretary-General to explore the strengthening of other centres, especially in Africa, in cooperation with the Member States concerned and within existing resources;

38. *Recalls* the offer made by the Government of Angola to host a United Nations information centre in Luanda to address the special needs of Portuguese-speaking African countries, through the provision of rent-free premises, regrets the lack of progress in this regard, and reiterates its request to the Secretary-General to report to the Committee on Information at its thirty-second session, on the measures necessary, including the budgetary requirements, to accommodate those needs, as well as any proposal to move this process forward;

39. *Encourages* the Secretary-General, when appointing directors to the United Nations information centres, to fully consider, inter alia, the experience of candidates in the field of information and communications technology, as one of the highly desirable appointment criteria;

III

Strategic communications services

40. *Reaffirms* the role of the strategic communications services in devising and disseminating United Nations messages by developing communications strategies, in close collaboration with the substantive departments, United Nations funds and programmes and the specialized agencies, in full compliance with their legislative mandates;

Promotional campaigns

41. *Appreciates* the work of the Department of Public Information in promoting, through its campaigns, issues of importance to the international community, such as the United Nations Millennium Declaration and the progress made in implementing the internationally agreed development goals, United Nations reform, the eradication of poverty, conflict prevention, peacekeeping, peacebuilding, sustainable development, disarmament, decolonization, human rights, including the rights of women and children and of persons with disabilities, strategic coordination in humanitarian relief, especially in natural disasters and other crises, HIV/AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis and other diseases, the needs of the African continent and combating terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, dialogue among civilizations, the culture of peace and tolerance and the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster, as well as prevention of genocide, and requests the Department to continue to carry out information activities on all these issues;

42. *Commends* the role of the Department of Public Information in observing the annual International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade, and looks forward to its further work in promoting the establishment of the permanent memorial to the victims of slavery and the transatlantic slave trade;

43. *Requests* the Department of Public Information, in this regard, in cooperation with the countries concerned and with the relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, to continue to take appropriate measures to enhance world public awareness of these and other important global issues;

44. *Stresses* the need to continue the renewed emphasis in support of Africa's development, in particular by the Department of Public Information, in order to promote awareness in the international community of the nature of the critical economic and social situation in Africa and of the priorities of the New Partnership for Africa's Development;[126]

45. *Recognizes* the role of the Department of Public Information and its network of United Nations information centres in commemorating the sixtieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;[127]

Role of the Department of Public Information in United Nations peacekeeping operations

46. *Commends* the role of the Department of Public Information and its network of United Nations information

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[126] A/57/304, annex.

[127] Resolution 217 A (III).

centres in commemorating the sixtieth anniversary of United Nations peacekeeping;

47. *Requests* the Secretariat to continue to ensure the involvement of the Department of Public Information from the planning stage of future peacekeeping operations through interdepartmental consultations and coordination with other departments of the Secretariat, in particular with the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Department of Field Support;

48. *Requests* the Department of Public Information, the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Department of Field Support to continue their cooperation in raising awareness of the new realities, far-reaching successes and challenges faced by peacekeeping operations, especially multidimensional and complex ones, and the recent surge in United Nations peacekeeping activities, and welcomes efforts by the three Departments to develop and implement a comprehensive communications strategy on current challenges facing United Nations peacekeeping;

49. *Stresses* the importance of enhancing the public information capacity of the Department of Public Information in the field of peacekeeping operations and its role, in close cooperation with the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Department of Field Support, in the process of selecting public information staff for United Nations peacekeeping operations or missions, and, in this regard, invites the Department of Public Information to second public information staff who have the skills necessary to fulfil the tasks of the operations or missions, taking into account the principle of equitable geographical distribution in accordance with Chapter XV, Article 101, paragraph 3, of the Charter of the United Nations, and to consider views expressed, especially by host countries, when appropriate, in this regard;

50. *Emphasizes* the importance of the peacekeeping gateway on the United Nations website, and requests the Department of Public Information to continue its efforts in supporting the peacekeeping missions to further develop their websites;

51. *Requests* the Department of Public Information and the Department of Peacekeeping Operations to continue to cooperate in implementing an effective outreach programme to explain the zero-tolerance policy of the Organization regarding sexual exploitation and abuse and to inform the public of the outcome of all such cases involving peacekeeping personnel, including cases where allegations are ultimately found to be legally unproven, and also to inform the public of the adoption by the General Assembly of the United Nations Comprehensive Strategy on Assistance and Support to Victims of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse by United Nations Staff and Related Personnel;[128]

Role of the Department of Public Information in strengthening dialogue among civilizations and the culture of peace as means of enhancing understanding among nations

52. *Recalls* its resolutions on dialogue among civilizations and the culture of peace,[129] requests the Department of Public Information, while ensuring the pertinence and relevance of subjects for promotional campaigns under this issue, to continue to provide the support necessary for the dissemination of information pertaining to dialogue among civilizations and the culture of peace, as well as the initiative on the Alliance of Civilizations, and to take due steps in fostering the culture of dialogue among civilizations and promoting cultural understanding, tolerance, respect for and freedom of religion or belief and effective enjoyment by all of all human rights and civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development;

53. *Invites* the United Nations system, especially the Department of Public Information, to continue to encourage and facilitate dialogue among civilizations and to formulate ways and means to promote dialogue among civilizations in the activities of the United Nations in various fields, taking into account the Programme of Action of the Global Agenda for Dialogue among Civilizations,[130] and in this regard, looks forward to the report of the Secretary-General requested by the General Assembly in its resolution 60/4 of 20 October 2005;

54. *Recognizes* the achievements of the Alliance of Civilizations and the efforts made by the High Representative of the Secretary-General for the Alliance of Civilizations, takes note of the broad range of initiatives and partnerships in the areas of youth, education, the media and migration launched at the second Alliance of Civilizations Forum, held in Istanbul, Turkey, on 6 and 7 April 2009, and welcomes the continued support of the Department of Public Information for the work of the Alliance of Civilizations, including its ongoing projects;

IV

News services

55. *Stresses* that the central objective of the news services implemented by the Department of Public Information is the timely delivery of accurate, objective and balanced news and information emanating from the United Nations system in all four mass media, namely, print, radio, television and the Internet, to the media and other audiences worldwide, with the overall emphasis on multilingualism, and reiterates its request to the Department to ensure that all news-breaking stories and news alerts are accurate, impartial and free of bias;

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[128] Resolution 62/214, annex.

[129] Resolutions 52/15, 53/22, 53/25, 55/23, 56/6, 59/142 and 60/4. ,

[130] Resolution 56/6, sect. B.

56. *Emphasizes* the importance of the Department of Public Information continuing to draw the attention of world media to stories that do not obtain prominent coverage, through the initiative entitled "10 Stories the World Should Hear More About" and through video and audio coverage by United Nations Television and United Nations Radio;

Traditional means of communication

57. *Welcomes* the initiative of United Nations Radio, which remains one of the most effective and far-reaching traditional media available to the Department of Public Information and an important instrument in United Nations activities, to enhance its live radio broadcasting service by making more frequently updated reports in all six official languages and features available to broadcasters on a daily basis on all United Nations activities, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to make every effort to achieve parity in the six official languages in United Nations Radio productions;

58. *Notes* the efforts being made by the Department of Public Information to disseminate programmes directly to broadcasting stations all over the world in the six official languages, with the addition of Portuguese and Kiswahili, as well as in other languages where possible;

59. *Requests* the Department of Public Information to continue building partnerships with local, national and regional broadcasters to extend the United Nations message to all the corners of the world in an accurate and impartial way, and requests the Radio and Television Service of the Department to continue to take full advantage of the technological infrastructure made available in recent years;

United Nations website

60. *Reaffirms* that the United Nations website is an essential tool for the media, non-governmental organizations, educational institutions, Member States and the general public, and, in this regard, reiterates the continued need for efforts by the Department of Public Information to maintain and improve it;

61. *Recognizes* the efforts made by the Department of Public Information to implement the basic accessibility requirements for persons with disabilities to access the United Nations website, and calls upon the Department to continue to work towards compliance with accessibility requirements on all new and updated pages of the website, with the aim of ensuring its accessibility for persons with different kinds of disabilities;

62. *Takes note* of the fact that the multilingual development and enrichment of the United Nations website has improved,[131] and, in this regard, requests the Department of Public Information, in coordination with content-providing offices, to further improve the actions taken to achieve full parity among the six official languages on the United Nations website, and especially reiterates its request to ensure the adequate distribution of financial and human resources within the Department allocated to the United Nations website among all official languages, taking into consideration the specificity of each official language;

63. *Welcomes* the cooperative arrangements undertaken by the Department of Public Information with academic institutions to increase the number of web pages available in some official languages, and reiterates its request to the Secretary-General to extend those arrangements to all the official languages of the United Nations;

64. *Recalls* paragraph 74 of its resolution 60/109 B, and in this regard reiterates that all content-providing offices in the Secretariat should continue their efforts to translate into all official languages all English-language materials and databases posted on the United Nations website and to make them available on the respective language websites in the most practical, efficient and cost-effective manner;

65. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to take full advantage of new developments in information technology in order to improve, in a cost-effective manner, the expeditious dissemination of information on the United Nations, in accordance with the priorities established by the General Assembly in its resolutions and taking into account the linguistic diversity of the Organization, welcomes the continuing growth in the popularity of the e-mail news alerts service provided by the Department of Public Information on the United Nations News Centre portal in English and French, and encourages the Department to consult with the Information Technology Services Division of the Department of Management and to explore, as a matter of priority, ways of upgrading the technical capabilities of the service and providing it in all official languages;

66. *Recognizes* that some official languages use non-Latin and bidirectional scripts and that technological infrastructures and supportive applications in the United Nations are based on Latin script, which leads to difficulties in processing non-Latin and bidirectional scripts, and urges the Information Technology Services Division of the Department of Management to further collaborate with the Department of Public Information and to continue its efforts to ensure that technological infrastructures and supportive applications in the United Nations fully support Latin, non-Latin and bidirectional scripts in order to enhance the equality of all official languages on the United Nations website;

V

Library services

67. *Calls upon* the Department of Public Information to continue to lead the Steering Committee for the Modernization

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[131] See A/AC.198/2007/3.

and Integrated Management of United Nations Libraries, and further commends the steps taken by the Dag Hammarskjöld Library and the other member libraries of the Steering Committee to align their activities, services and outputs more closely with the goals, objectives and operational priorities of the Organization;

68. *Reiterates* the need to maintain a multilingual collection of books, periodicals and other materials in hard copy, accessible to Member States, ensuring that the Library continues to be a broadly accessible resource for information about the United Nations and its activities;

69. *Calls upon* the Department of Public Information, recognizing the importance of audio-visual archives in preserving our common heritage, to continue to examine its policies and activities regarding the durable preservation of its radio, television and photographic archives and to take action, within existing resources, in ensuring that such archives are preserved and are accessible, and encourages the Department to work further with all interested partners in order to reach that objective;

70. *Takes note* of the initiative taken by the Dag Hammarskjöld Library, in its capacity as the focal point, to expand the scope of the regional training and knowledge-sharing workshops organized for the depository libraries in developing countries to include outreach in their activities;

71. *Acknowledges* the role of the Dag Hammarskjöld Library in enhancing knowledge-sharing and networking activities to ensure access to the vast store of United Nations knowledge for delegates, permanent missions of Member States, the Secretariat, researchers and depository libraries worldwide;

72. *Notes with appreciation* the Personal Knowledge Management initiative to assist representatives of Member States and Secretariat staff in the use of information products and tools as a complement to the traditional training programmes;

73. *Encourages* the Secretariat to develop and implement cost-neutral measures to provide Member States with secure access to the information currently accessible only on the Intranet of the Secretariat (iSeek), taking note that Member States have access to iSeek only through the facilities of the Dag Hammarskjöld Library;

VI

Outreach services

74. *Acknowledges* that the outreach services provided by the Department of Public Information continue to work towards promoting awareness of the role and work of the United Nations;

75. *Welcomes* the educational outreach activities of the Department of Public Information, through the United Nations Works programme and the Global Teaching and Learning Project, to reach educators and young people worldwide via a range of multimedia platforms, and encourages the United Nations Works programme to continue to develop further its partnerships with global media networks and celebrity advocates and the Global Teaching and Learning Project to further expand its activities to teachers and students in primary, intermediate and secondary schools;

76. *Notes* the importance of the continued implementation by the Department of Public Information of the ongoing programme for broadcasters and journalists from developing countries and countries with economies in transition, as mandated by the General Assembly, and requests the Department to consider how best to maximize the benefits derived from the programme by extending, inter alia, its duration and the number of its participants;

77. *Welcomes* the movement towards educational outreach and the orientation of the *UN Chronicle*, both print and online editions, and, to this end, encourages the *UN Chronicle* to continue to develop co-publishing partnerships, collaborative educational activities and events, including the "Unlearning Intolerance" seminar series, with civil society organizations and institutions of higher learning;

78. *Takes note* of the report on "UN Affairs" contained in the annex to the report of the Secretary-General,[132] and requests the Department of Public Information to continue the publication of the *UN Chronicle*, with a view to improving it further within existing resources, to report to the Committee on Information at its thirty-second session on progress in this matter and to submit options for publishing the *UN Chronicle* in all six official languages;

79. *Also takes note* of the efforts undertaken by the Department of Public Information in organizing exhibitions on important United Nations-related issues, within existing mandates, at United Nations Headquarters and at other United Nations offices as a useful tool for reaching out to the general public, reaffirms the important role that guided tours play as a means of reaching out to the general public, and requests the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to ensure that the guided tours provided at United Nations Headquarters and other United Nations duty stations are consistently available, in accordance with their income-generating nature, in particular in all the United Nations official languages;

80. *Requests* the Department of Public Information to strengthen its role as a focal point for two-way interaction with

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[132] A/AC.198/2009/4.

civil society relating to those priorities and concerns of the Organization identified by Member States;

81. *Commends*, in a spirit of cooperation, the United Nations Correspondents Association for its ongoing activities and for its Dag Hammarskjöld Memorial Scholarship Fund, which sponsors journalists from developing countries to come to the United Nations Headquarters and report on the activities during the General Assembly, and further encourages the international community to continue its financial support for the Fund;

82. *Expresses its appreciation* for the efforts and contribution of United Nations Messengers of Peace, Goodwill Ambassadors and other advocates to promote the work of the United Nations and to enhance international public awareness of its priorities and concerns, and calls upon the Department of Public Information to continue to involve them in its communications and media strategies and outreach activities;

VII

Final remarks

83. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Committee on Information at its thirty-second session and to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session on the activities of the Department of Public Information and on the implementation of all recommendations and requests contained in the present resolution;

84. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to make every effort to ensure that the level of services provided by the Department of Public Information is maintained throughout the period of the implementation of the capital master plan;

85. *Takes note* of the initiative taken by the Department of Public Information, in cooperation with the Department of Safety and Security and the Protocol and Liaison Service, during the general debate of the sixty-third session of the General Assembly, to issue special identification stickers to press officers of Member States to enable them to escort media covering the visits of high-level officials to restricted areas, and strongly urges the Secretary-General to improve this practice by acceding to the request by Member States to provide the needed number of additional passes to press officers of Member States to allow their access to all areas that are deemed restricted, in order to effectively and comprehensively report on high-level meetings that include officials of delegations of Member States;

86. *Requests* the Committee on Information to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session;

87. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled "Questions relating to information".

RESOLUTION 64/97

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 10 December 2009, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/409, para. 6),[133] by a recorded vote of 171 to none, with 4 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: None

Abstaining: France, Israel, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

64/97. Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 1970 (XVIII) of 16 December 1963, in which it requested the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to study the information transmitted to the Secretary-General in accordance with Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations and to take such information fully into account in examining the situation with regard to the implementation of the Declaration, contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960,

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[133] The draft resolution recommended in the report of the Fourth Committee was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

Recalling also its resolution 63/101 of 5 December 2008, in which it requested the Special Committee to continue to discharge the functions entrusted to it under resolution 1970 (XVIII),

Stressing the importance of timely transmission by the administering Powers of adequate information under Article 73 *e* of the Charter, in particular in relation to the preparation by the Secretariat of the working papers on the Territories concerned,

Having examined the report of the Secretary-General,[134]

1. *Reaffirms* that, in the absence of a decision by the General Assembly itself that a Non-Self-Governing Territory has attained a full measure of self-government in terms of Chapter XI of the Charter of the United Nations, the administering Power concerned should continue to transmit information under Article 73 *e* of the Charter with respect to that Territory;

2. *Requests* the administering Powers concerned, in accordance with their Charter obligations, to transmit or continue to transmit regularly to the Secretary-General for information purposes, subject to such limitation as security and constitutional considerations may require, statistical and other information of a technical nature relating to economic, social and educational conditions in the Territories for which they are respectively responsible, as well as the fullest possible information on political and constitutional developments in the Territories concerned, including the constitution, legislative act or executive order providing for the government of the Territory and the constitutional relationship of the Territory to the administering Power, within a maximum period of six months following the expiration of the administrative year in those Territories;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to ensure that adequate information is drawn from all available published sources in connection with the preparation of the working papers relating to the Territories concerned;

4. *Requests* the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to continue to discharge the functions entrusted to it under General Assembly resolution 1970 (XVIII), in accordance with established procedures.

RESOLUTION 64/98

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 10 December 2009, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/410, para. 6),[135] by a recorded vote of 173 to 2, with 2 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel, United States of America

Abstaining: France, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

64/98. Economic and other activities which affect the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories

The General Assembly,

Having considered the item entitled "Economic and other activities which affect the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories",

Having examined the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples relating to the item,[136]

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[134] A/64/67.

[135] The draft resolution recommended in the report of the Fourth Committee was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

Recalling General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, as well as all other relevant resolutions of the Assembly, including, in particular, resolutions 46/181 of 19 December 1991 and 55/146 of 8 December 2000,

Reaffirming the solemn obligation of the administering Powers under the Charter of the United Nations to promote the political, economic, social and educational advancement of the inhabitants of the Territories under their administration and to protect the human and natural resources of those Territories against abuses,

Reaffirming also that any economic or other activity that has a negative impact on the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories and on the exercise of their right to self-determination in conformity with the Charter and General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) is contrary to the purposes and principles of the Charter,

Reaffirming further that the natural resources are the heritage of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, including the indigenous populations,

Aware of the special circumstances of the geographical location, size and economic conditions of each Territory, and bearing in mind the need to promote the economic stability, diversification and strengthening of the economy of each Territory,

Conscious of the particular vulnerability of the small Territories to natural disasters and environmental degradation,

Conscious also that foreign economic investment, when undertaken in collaboration with the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories and in accordance with their wishes, could make a valid contribution to the socio-economic development of the Territories and also to the exercise of their right to self-determination,

Concerned about any activities aimed at exploiting the natural and human resources of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to the detriment of the interests of the inhabitants of those Territories,

Bearing in mind the relevant provisions of the final documents of the successive Conferences of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries and of the resolutions adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union, the Pacific Islands Forum and the Caribbean Community,

1. *Reaffirms* the right of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to self-determination in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, as well as their right to the enjoyment of their natural resources and their right to dispose of those resources in their best interest;

2. *Affirms* the value of foreign economic investment undertaken in collaboration with the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories and in accordance with their wishes in order to make a valid contribution to the socio-economic development of the Territories, especially during times of economic and financial crisis;

3. *Reaffirms* the responsibility of the administering Powers under the Charter to promote the political, economic, social and educational advancement of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, and reaffirms the legitimate rights of their peoples over their natural resources;

4. *Reaffirms its concern* about any activities aimed at the exploitation of the natural resources that are the heritage of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, including the indigenous populations, in the Caribbean, the Pacific and other regions, and of their human resources, to the detriment of their interests, and in such a way as to deprive them of their right to dispose of those resources;

5. *Reaffirms* the need to avoid any economic and other activities that adversely affect the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

6. *Calls once again upon* all Governments that have not yet done so to take, in accordance with the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolution 2621 (XXV) of 12 October 1970, legislative, administrative or other measures in respect of their nationals and the bodies corporate under their jurisdiction that own and operate enterprises in the Non-Self-Governing Territories that are detrimental to the interests of the inhabitants of those Territories, in order to put an end to such enterprises;

7. *Calls upon* the administering Powers to ensure that the exploitation of the marine and other natural resources in the Non-Self-Governing Territories under their administration is not in violation of the relevant resolutions of the United Nations, and does not adversely affect the interests of the peoples of those Territories;

8. *Invites* all Governments and organizations of the United Nations system to take all possible measures to ensure that the permanent sovereignty of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories over their natural resources is fully respected and safeguarded in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations on decolonization;

9. *Urges* the administering Powers concerned to take effective measures to safeguard and guarantee the inalienable right of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to their natural resources and to establish and maintain control

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[136] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 23* and corrigendum (A/64/23 and Corr.2), chap. V.

over the future development of those resources, and requests the administering Powers to take all necessary steps to protect the property rights of the peoples of those Territories in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations on decolonization;

10. *Calls upon* the administering Powers concerned to ensure that no discriminatory working conditions prevail in the Territories under their administration and to promote in each Territory a fair system of wages applicable to all the inhabitants without any discrimination;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue, through all means at his disposal, to inform world public opinion of any activity that affects the exercise of the right of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to self-determination in conformity with the Charter and General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV);

12. *Appeals* to trade unions and non-governmental organizations, as well as individuals, to continue their efforts to promote the economic well-being of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, and also appeals to the media to disseminate information about the developments in this regard;

13. *Decides* to follow the situation in the Non-Self-Governing Territories so as to ensure that all economic activities in those Territories are aimed at strengthening and diversifying their economies in the interest of their peoples, including the indigenous populations, and at promoting the economic and financial viability of those Territories;

14. *Requests* the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to continue to examine this question and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session.

RESOLUTION 64/99

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 10 December 2009, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/411, para. 6),[137] by a recorded vote of 123 to none, with 53 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Australia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: None

Abstaining: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

64/99. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations

The General Assembly,

Having considered the item entitled "Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations",

Having also considered the report of the Secretary-General[138] and the report of the Economic and Social Council[139] on the item,

Having examined the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples relating to the item,[140]

Recalling its resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960 and 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960 and the resolutions of the Special Committee, as well as other relevant resolutions and decisions, including in particular Economic and Social Council resolution 2008/15 of 24 July 2008,

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[137] The draft resolution recommended in the report of the Fourth Committee was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

[138] A/64/62.

[139] E/2009/69.

[140] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 23* and corrigendum (A/64/23 and Corr.2), chap. VI.

Bearing in mind the relevant provisions of the final documents of the successive Conferences of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries and of the resolutions adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union, the Pacific Islands Forum and the Caribbean Community,

Conscious of the need to facilitate the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in resolution 1514 (XV),

Noting that the large majority of the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories are small island Territories,

Welcoming the assistance extended to Non-Self-Governing Territories by certain specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Development Programme,

Also welcoming the participation in the capacity of observers of those Non Self-Governing Territories that are associate members of regional commissions in the world conferences in the economic and social spheres, subject to the rules of procedure of the General Assembly and in accordance with relevant resolutions and decisions of the United Nations, including resolutions and decisions of the Assembly and the Special Committee on specific Territories,

Noting that only some specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system have been involved in providing assistance to Non-Self-Governing Territories,

Stressing that, because the development options of the small island Non-Self-Governing Territories are limited, there are special challenges to planning for and implementing sustainable development and that those Territories will be constrained in meeting the challenges without the continuing cooperation and assistance of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system,

Stressing also the importance of securing the necessary resources for funding expanded programmes of assistance for the peoples concerned and the need to enlist the support of all major funding institutions within the United Nations system in that regard,

Reaffirming the mandates of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to take all appropriate measures, within their respective spheres of competence, to ensure the full implementation of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions,

Expressing its appreciation to the African Union, the Pacific Islands Forum, the Caribbean Community and other regional organizations for the continued cooperation and assistance they have extended to the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in this regard,

Expressing its conviction that closer contacts and consultations between and among the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and regional organizations help to facilitate the effective formulation of programmes of assistance to the peoples concerned,

Mindful of the imperative need to keep under continuous review the activities of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in the implementation of the various resolutions and decisions of the United Nations relating to decolonization,

Bearing in mind the extremely fragile economies of the small island Non-Self-Governing Territories and their vulnerability to natural disasters, such as hurricanes, cyclones and sea-level rise, and recalling the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 63/103 of 5 December 2008 on the implementation of the Declaration by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[138]

2. *Recommends* that all States intensify their efforts in the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in which they are members to ensure the full and effective implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

3. *Reaffirms* that the specialized agencies and other organizations and institutions of the United Nations system should continue to be guided by the relevant resolutions of the United Nations in their efforts to contribute to the implementation of the Declaration and all other relevant resolutions of the General Assembly;

4. *Reaffirms also* that the recognition by the General Assembly, the Security Council and other United Nations organs of the legitimacy of the aspirations of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to exercise their right to self-determination entails, as a corollary, the extension of all appropriate assistance to those peoples;

5. *Expresses its appreciation* to those specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system that have continued to cooperate with the United Nations and the regional and subregional organizations in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations, and requests all the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to implement the relevant provisions of those resolutions;

6. *Requests* the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to intensify their engagement with the work of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration

on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples as an important element for the implementation of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), including possible participation at the regional seminars on decolonization, upon the invitation of the Special Committee;

7. *Requests* the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and international and regional organizations to examine and review conditions in each Territory so as to take appropriate measures to accelerate progress in the economic and social sectors of the Territories;

8. *Urges* those specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system that have not yet provided assistance to Non-Self-Governing Territories to do so as soon as possible;

9. *Requests* the specialized agencies and other organizations and institutions of the United Nations system and regional organizations to strengthen existing measures of support and formulate appropriate programmes of assistance to the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories, within the framework of their respective mandates, in order to accelerate progress in the economic and social sectors of those Territories;

10. *Requests* the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system concerned to provide information on:

(*a*) Environmental problems facing the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

(*b*) The impact of natural disasters, such as hurricanes and volcanic eruptions, and other environmental problems, such as beach and coastal erosion and droughts, on those Territories;

(*c*) Ways and means to assist the Territories to fight drug trafficking, money-laundering and other illegal and criminal activities;

(*d*) Illegal exploitation of the marine and other natural resources of the Territories and the need to utilize those resources for the benefit of the peoples of the Territories;

11. *Recommends* that the executive heads of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system formulate, with the active cooperation of the regional organizations concerned, concrete proposals for the full implementation of the relevant resolutions of the United Nations and submit the proposals to their governing and legislative organs;

12. *Also recommends* that the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system continue to review at the regular meetings of their governing bodies the implementation of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

13. *Recalls* the adoption by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean of its resolution 574 (XXVII) of 16 May 1998,[141] calling for the necessary mechanisms for its associate members, including Non-Self-Governing Territories, to participate in the special sessions of the General Assembly, subject to the rules of procedure of the Assembly, to review and assess the implementation of the plans of action of those United Nations world conferences in which the Territories originally participated in the capacity of observer, and in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies;

14. *Requests* the Chair of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to continue to maintain close contact on these matters with the President of the Economic and Social Council;

15. *Recalls* the publication by the Department of Public Information and the Department of Political Affairs of the Secretariat, in consultation with the United Nations Development Programme, the specialized agencies and the Special Committee, of an information leaflet on assistance programmes available to the Non-Self-Governing Territories, which was updated for the United Nations website on decolonization, and requests its continued updating and wide dissemination;

16. *Welcomes* the continuing efforts made by the United Nations Development Programme in maintaining close liaison among the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, including the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, and in providing assistance to the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

17. *Encourages* the Non-Self-Governing Territories to take steps to establish and/or strengthen disaster preparedness and management institutions and policies, inter alia, with the assistance of the relevant specialized agencies;

18. *Requests* the administering Powers concerned to facilitate, when appropriate, the participation of appointed and elected representatives of Non-Self-Governing Territories in the relevant meetings and conferences of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in accordance with relevant resolutions and decisions of the United Nations, including resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly and the Special Committee on specific Territories, so that the Territories may benefit from the related activities of those agencies and organizations;

19. *Recommends* that all Governments intensify their efforts in the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system of which they are members to accord

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[141] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1998, Supplement No. 21* (E/1998/41), sect. III.G.

priority to the question of providing assistance to the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to assist the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in working out appropriate measures for implementing the relevant resolutions of the United Nations and to prepare for submission to the relevant bodies, with the assistance of those agencies and organizations, a report on the action taken in implementation of the relevant resolutions, including the present resolution, since the circulation of his previous report;

21. *Commends* the Economic and Social Council for its debate and resolution on this question, and requests it to continue to consider, in consultation with the Special Committee, appropriate measures for the coordination of the policies and activities of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in implementing the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly;

22. *Requests* the specialized agencies to report periodically to the Secretary-General on the implementation of the present resolution;

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit the present resolution to the governing bodies of the appropriate specialized agencies and international institutions associated with the United Nations so that those bodies may take the measures necessary to implement the resolution, and also requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

24. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to examine the question and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session.

RESOLUTION 64/100

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 10 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/412, para. 6)[142]

64/100. Offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 63/104 of 5 December 2008,

Having examined the report of the Secretary-General on offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories,[143] prepared pursuant to its resolution 845 (IX) of 22 November 1954,

Conscious of the importance of promoting the educational advancement of the inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories,

Strongly convinced that the continuation and expansion of offers of scholarships is essential in order to meet the increasing need of students from Non-Self-Governing Territories for educational and training assistance, and considering that students in those Territories should be encouraged to avail themselves of such offers,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[143]

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Member States that have made scholarships available to the inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories;

3. *Invites* all States to make or continue to make generous offers of study and training facilities to the inhabitants of those Territories that have not yet attained self-government or independence and, wherever possible, to provide travel funds to prospective students;

4. *Urges* the administering Powers to take effective measures to ensure the widespread and continuous dissemination in the Territories under their administration of information relating to offers of study and training facilities made by States and to provide all the necessary facilities to enable students to avail themselves of such offers;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

6. *Draws the attention* of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 64/101

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 10 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/413, para. 22)[144]

64/101. Question of Western Sahara

The General Assembly,

Having considered in depth the question of Western Sahara,

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[142] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Argentina, China, Cuba, Egypt, Ghana, India, Nigeria, Philippines, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Thailand and United Republic of Tanzania.

[143] A/64/69 and Corr.1 and 2.

[144] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Chair of the Committee.

Reaffirming the inalienable right of all peoples to self-determination and independence, in accordance with the principles set forth in the Charter of the United Nations and General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960 containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,

Recognizing that all available options for self-determination of the Territories are valid as long as they are in accordance with the freely expressed wishes of the people concerned and in conformity with the clearly defined principles contained in General Assembly resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960 and 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960 and other resolutions of the Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 63/105 of 5 December 2008,

Recalling also all resolutions of the General Assembly and the Security Council on the question of Western Sahara,

Recalling further Security Council resolutions 658 (1990) of 27 June 1990, 690 (1991) of 29 April 1991, 1359 (2001) of 29 June 2001, 1429 (2002) of 30 July 2002, 1495 (2003) of 31 July 2003, 1541 (2004) of 29 April 2004, 1570 (2004) of 28 October 2004, 1598 (2005) of 28 April 2005, 1634 (2005) of 28 October 2005, 1675 (2006) of 28 April 2006 and 1720 (2006) of 31 October 2006,

Underlining the adoption of Security Council resolutions 1754 (2007) on 30 April 2007, 1783 (2007) on 31 October 2007, 1813 (2008) on 30 April 2008 and 1871 (2009) on 30 April 2009,

Expressing its satisfaction that the parties have met on 18 and 19 June 2007, on 10 and 11 August 2007, from 7 to 9 January 2008 and from 16 to 18 March 2008 under the auspices of the Personal Envoy of the Secretary-General and in the presence of the neighbouring countries and that they have agreed to continue the negotiations,

Welcoming the appointment of Mr. Christopher Ross as the Personal Envoy of the Secretary-General for Western Sahara,

Expressing its satisfaction at the holding of an informal meeting convened by the Personal Envoy of the Secretary-General on 10 and 11 August 2009 in Dürnstein, Austria, to prepare for the fifth round of negotiations,

Calling upon all the parties and the States of the region to cooperate fully with the Secretary-General and his Personal Envoy and with each other,

Reaffirming the responsibility of the United Nations towards the people of Western Sahara,

Welcoming, in this regard, the efforts of the Secretary-General and his Personal Envoy in search of a mutually acceptable political solution to the dispute, which will provide for the self-determination of the people of Western Sahara,

Having examined the relevant chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,[145]

Having also examined the report of the Secretary-General,[146]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[146]

2. *Supports* the process of negotiations initiated by Security Council resolution 1754 (2007) and further sustained by Council resolutions 1783 (2007), 1813 (2008) and 1871 (2009), with a view to achieving a just, lasting and mutually acceptable political solution, which will provide for the self-determination of the people of Western Sahara; and commends the efforts undertaken by the Secretary-General and his Personal Envoy in this respect;

3. *Welcomes* the commitment of the parties to continue to show political will and work in an atmosphere propitious for dialogue, in order to enter into a more intensive phase of negotiations, in good faith and without preconditions, taking note of efforts and developments since 2006, thus ensuring implementation of Security Council resolutions 1754 (2007), 1783 (2007), 1813 (2008) and 1871 (2009) and the success of negotiations;

4. *Also welcomes* the ongoing negotiations between the parties held on 18 and 19 June 2007, on 10 and 11 August 2007, from 7 to 9 January 2008 and from 16 to 18 March 2008 in the presence of the neighbouring countries under the auspices of the United Nations;

5. *Calls upon* the parties to cooperate with the International Committee of the Red Cross, and calls upon them to abide by their obligations under international humanitarian law;

6. *Requests* the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to continue to consider the situation in Western Sahara and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session;

7. *Invites* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

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[145] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 23* and corrigendum (A/64/23 and Corr.2), chap. VIII, sect. C.

[146] A/64/185.

RESOLUTION 64/102

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 10 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/413, para. 22)[147]

64/102. Question of New Caledonia

The General Assembly,

Having considered the question of New Caledonia,

Having examined the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples relating to New Caledonia,[148]

Reaffirming the right of peoples to self-determination as enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960 and 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960,

Noting the importance of the positive measures being pursued in New Caledonia by the French authorities, in cooperation with all sectors of the population, to promote political, economic and social development in the Territory, including measures in the area of environmental protection and action with respect to drug abuse and trafficking, in order to provide a framework for its peaceful progress to self-determination,

Noting also, in this context, the importance of equitable economic and social development, as well as continued dialogue among the parties involved in New Caledonia in the preparation of the act of self-determination of New Caledonia,

Noting with satisfaction the intensification of contacts between New Caledonia and neighbouring countries of the South Pacific region,

1. *Welcomes* the significant developments that have taken place in New Caledonia since the signing of the Nouméa Accord on 5 May 1998 by the representatives of New Caledonia and the Government of France;[149]

2. *Urges* all the parties involved, in the interest of all the people of New Caledonia, to maintain, in the framework of the Nouméa Accord, their dialogue in a spirit of harmony, and in this context welcomes the unanimous agreement, reached in Paris on 8 December 2008, on the transfer of powers to New Caledonia in 2009 and the conduct of provincial elections in May 2009;

3. *Notes* the relevant provisions of the Nouméa Accord aimed at taking more broadly into account the Kanak identity in the political and social organization of New Caledonia, and welcomes, in this context, the adoption on 26 June 2008 by the Government of New Caledonia of a draft country law (*loi du pays*) on the identity symbols to be adopted by the country in implementation of the Nouméa Accord and the acceptance, on 21 October 2008, of the draft law on the anthem, motto and banknote design;

4. *Acknowledges* those provisions of the Nouméa Accord relating to control of immigration and protection of local employment, and notes that unemployment remains high among Kanaks and that recruitment of foreign mine workers continues;

5. *Notes* the concerns expressed by a group of indigenous people in New Caledonia regarding their underrepresentation in the Territory's governmental and social structures;

6. *Also notes* the concerns expressed by representatives of indigenous people regarding incessant migratory flows and the impact of mining on the environment;

7. *Takes note* of the relevant provisions of the Nouméa Accord to the effect that New Caledonia may become a member or associate member of certain international organizations, such as international organizations in the Pacific region, the United Nations, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the International Labour Organization, according to their regulations;

8. *Notes* the agreement between the signatories to the Nouméa Accord that the progress made in the emancipation process shall be brought to the attention of the United Nations;

9. *Recalls* the fact that the administering Power invited to New Caledonia, at the time the new institutions were established, a mission of information which comprised representatives of countries of the Pacific region;

10. *Notes* the continuing strengthening of ties between New Caledonia and both the European Union and the European Development Fund in such areas as economic and trade cooperation, the environment, climate change and financial services;

11. *Calls upon* the administering Power to continue to transmit to the Secretary-General information as required under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations;

12. *Invites* all the parties involved to continue promoting a framework for the peaceful progress of the Territory towards an act of self-determination in which all options are open and which would safeguard the rights of all sectors of the population, according to the letter and the spirit of the Nouméa

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[147] The draft resolution recommended in the report of the Fourth Committee was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

[148] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 23* and corrigendum (A/64/23 and Corr.2), chap. VIII, sect. B.

[149] A/AC.109/2114, annex.

Accord, which is based on the principle that it is for the populations of New Caledonia to choose how to control their destiny;

13. *Recalls with satisfaction* the efforts of the French authorities to resolve the question of voter registration by adopting, in the French Congress of Parliament, on 19 February 2007, amendments to the French Constitution allowing New Caledonia to restrict eligibility to vote in local polls to those voters registered on the 1998 electoral rolls when the Nouméa Accord was signed, thus ensuring strong representation of the Kanak population;

14. *Welcomes* all measures taken to strengthen and diversify the New Caledonian economy in all fields, and encourages further such measures in accordance with the spirit of the Matignon and Nouméa Accords;

15. *Also welcomes* the importance attached by the parties to the Matignon and Nouméa Accords to greater progress in housing, employment, training, education and health care in New Caledonia;

16. *Notes* the financial assistance rendered by the Government of France to the Territory in areas such as health, education, payment of public-service salaries and funding development schemes;

17. *Acknowledges* the contribution of the Melanesian Cultural Centre to the protection of the indigenous Kanak culture of New Caledonia;

18. *Notes* the positive initiatives aimed at protecting the natural environment of New Caledonia, including the "Zonéco" operation designed to map and evaluate marine resources within the economic zone of New Caledonia;

19. *Welcomes* the cooperation among Australia, France and New Zealand in terms of surveillance of fishing zones, in accordance with the wishes expressed by France during the France-Oceania Summits in July 2003 and June 2006;

20. *Acknowledges* the close links between New Caledonia and the peoples of the South Pacific and the positive actions being taken by the French and territorial authorities to facilitate the further development of those links, including the development of closer relations with the countries members of the Pacific Islands Forum;

21. *Welcomes*, in this regard, the participation of New Caledonia at the 39th Summit of the Pacific Islands Forum, held in Niue from 19 to 21 August 2008, following its accession to the Forum as an associate member in October 2006;

22. *Also welcomes* the continuing high-level visits to New Caledonia by delegations from countries of the Pacific region and high-level visits by delegations from New Caledonia to countries members of the Pacific Islands Forum;

23. *Further welcomes* the cooperative attitude of other States and Territories in the region towards New Caledonia, its economic and political aspirations and its increasing participation in regional and international affairs;

24. *Recalls* the endorsement of the report of the Forum Ministerial Committee on New Caledonia by leaders of the Pacific Islands Forum at its 36th Summit, held in Papua New Guinea in October 2005, and the continuing role of the Forum Ministerial Committee in monitoring developments in the Territory and encouraging closer regional engagements;

25. *Decides* to keep under continuous review the process unfolding in New Caledonia as a result of the signing of the Nouméa Accord;

26. *Requests* the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to continue the examination of the question of the Non-Self-Governing Territory of New Caledonia and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session.

RESOLUTION 64/103

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 10 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/413, para. 22)[150]

64/103. Question of Tokelau

The General Assembly,

Having considered the question of Tokelau,

Having examined the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples relating to Tokelau,[151]

Recalling its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and all resolutions and decisions of the United Nations relating to Non-Self-Governing Territories, in particular General Assembly resolution 63/107 of 5 December 2008,

Noting with appreciation the continuing exemplary cooperation of New Zealand as the administering Power with regard to the work of the Special Committee relating to Tokelau and its readiness to permit access by United Nations visiting missions to the Territory,

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[150] The draft resolution recommended in the report of the Fourth Committee was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

[151] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 23* and corrigendum (A/64/23 and Corr.2), chap. X.

Also noting with appreciation the collaborative contribution to the development of Tokelau by New Zealand and the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Development Programme,

Recalling the inauguration in 1996 of a national legislative body, the General Fono, based on village elections by universal adult suffrage and the assumption by that body in June 2003 of full responsibility for the Tokelau budget,

Noting that, as a small island Territory, Tokelau exemplifies the situation of most remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories and that, as a case study pointing to successful cooperation for decolonization, Tokelau has wider significance for the United Nations as it seeks to complete its work in decolonization,

Recalling that New Zealand and Tokelau signed in November 2003 a document entitled "Joint statement of the principles of partnership", which sets out in writing, for the first time, the rights and obligations of the two partner countries,

Bearing in mind the decision of the General Fono at its meeting in November 2003, following extensive consultations undertaken in all three villages, to explore formally with New Zealand the option of self-government in free association and its decision in August 2005 to hold a referendum on self-government on the basis of a draft constitution for Tokelau and a treaty of free association with New Zealand, and its subsequent decision to hold a further referendum in October 2007,

1. *Notes* that Tokelau and New Zealand remain firmly committed to the ongoing development of Tokelau for the long-term benefit of the people of Tokelau, with particular emphasis on the further development of facilities on each atoll that meet their current requirements;

2. *Notes also* the ongoing recognition by New Zealand of the complete right of the people of Tokelau to undertake the act of self-determination when this is considered by the people of Tokelau to be appropriate;

3. *Welcomes* the progress made towards the devolution of power to the three taupulega (village councils), in particular the delegation of the Administrator's powers to the three taupulega with effect from 1 July 2004 and the assumption by each taupulega from that date of full responsibility for the management of all its public services;

4. *Recalls* the decision of the General Fono in November 2003, following extensive consultations in all three villages and a meeting of the Special Committee on the Constitution of Tokelau, to explore formally with New Zealand the option of self-government in free association, and the discussions subsequently held between Tokelau and New Zealand pursuant to the decision of the General Fono;

5. *Recalls also* the decision of the General Fono in August 2005 to hold a referendum on self-government on the basis of a draft constitution for Tokelau and a draft treaty of free association with New Zealand, and notes the enactment by the General Fono of rules for the referendum;

6. *Notes* that two referendums to determine the status of Tokelau, held in February 2006 and October 2007, did not produce the two-thirds majority of the valid votes cast required by the General Fono to change Tokelau's status from that of a Non-Self-Governing Territory under the administration of New Zealand;

7. *Commends* the professional and transparent conduct of both the February 2006 and the October 2007 referendums, monitored by the United Nations;

8. *Acknowledges* the decision of the General Fono that consideration of any future act of self-determination by Tokelau will be deferred and that New Zealand and Tokelau will devote renewed effort and attention to ensuring that essential services and infrastructure on the atolls of Tokelau are enhanced and strengthened, thereby ensuring an enhanced quality of life for the people of Tokelau;

9. *Also acknowledges* Tokelau's initiative in devising a strategic economic development plan for the period 2007–2010;

10. *Further acknowledges* the ongoing and consistent commitment of New Zealand to meeting the social and economic requirements of the people of Tokelau, as well as the support and cooperation of the United Nations Development Programme;

11. *Acknowledges* Tokelau's need for continued support from the international community;

12. *Recalls with satisfaction* the establishment and operation of the Tokelau International Trust Fund to support the ongoing needs of Tokelau, and calls upon Member States and international and regional agencies to contribute to the Fund and thereby lend practical support to Tokelau in overcoming the problems of smallness, isolation and lack of resources;

13. *Welcomes* the assurance of the Government of New Zealand that it will meet its obligations with respect to Tokelau;

14. *Also welcomes* the cooperative attitude of the other States and territories in the region towards Tokelau, and their support for its economic and political aspirations and its increasing participation in regional and international affairs;

15. *Calls upon* the administering Power and United Nations agencies to continue to provide assistance to Tokelau as it further develops;

16. *Welcomes* the actions taken by the administering Power to transmit information regarding the political, economic and social situation of Tokelau to the Secretary-General;

17. *Also welcomes* the commitment of both Tokelau and New Zealand to continue to work together in the interests of Tokelau and its people;

18. *Requests* the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to continue to examine the question of the Non-Self-Governing Territory of Tokelau and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session.

RESOLUTIONS 64/104 A and B

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 10 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/413, para. 22)[152]

64/104. Questions of American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Pitcairn, Saint Helena, the Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands

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GENERAL

The General Assembly,

Having considered the questions of the Non-Self-Governing Territories of American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Pitcairn, Saint Helena, the Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands, hereinafter referred to as "the Territories",

Having examined the relevant chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,[153]

Recalling all resolutions and decisions of the United Nations relating to those Territories, including, in particular, the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly at its sixty-third session on the individual Territories covered by the present resolutions,

Recognizing that all available options for self-determination of the Territories are valid as long as they are in accordance with the freely expressed wishes of the peoples concerned and in conformity with the clearly defined principles contained in General Assembly resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960 and other resolutions of the Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 1541 (XV), containing the principles that should guide Member States in determining whether or not an obligation exists to transmit the information called for under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations,

Expressing concern that more than forty-eight years after the adoption of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,[154] there still remain a number of Non-Self-Governing Territories,

Conscious of the importance of continuing effective implementation of the Declaration, taking into account the target set by the United Nations to eradicate colonialism by 2010 and the plan of action for the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism,[155]

Recognizing that the specific characteristics and the aspirations of the peoples of the Territories require flexible, practical and innovative approaches to the options for self-determination, without any prejudice to territorial size, geographical location, size of population or natural resources,

Noting the stated position of the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the stated position of the Government of the United States of America on the Non-Self-Governing Territories under their administration,

Noting also the constitutional developments in some Non-Self-Governing Territories affecting the internal structure of governance about which the Special Committee has received information,

Convinced that the wishes and aspirations of the peoples of the Territories should continue to guide the development of their future political status and that referendums, free and fair elections and other forms of popular consultation play an important role in ascertaining the wishes and aspirations of the people,

Convinced also that any negotiations to determine the status of a Territory must take place with the active involvement and participation of the people of that Territory, under the aegis of the United Nations, on a case-by-case basis, and that the views of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories in respect of their right to self-determination should be ascertained,

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[152] The draft resolutions recommended in the report of the Fourth Committee were submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

[153] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 23* and corrigendum (A/64/23 and Corr.2), chap. IX.

[154] Resolution 1514 (XV).

[155] A/56/61, annex.

Noting that a number of Non-Self-Governing Territories have expressed concern at the procedure followed by some administering Powers, contrary to the wishes of the Territories themselves, of amending or enacting legislation for application to the Territories, either through orders in council, in order to apply to the Territories the international treaty obligations of the administering Power, or through the unilateral application of laws and regulations,

Aware of the importance of the international financial services and tourism sectors for the economies of some of the Non-Self-Governing Territories,

Noting the continued cooperation of the Non-Self-Governing Territories at the local and regional levels, including participation in the work of regional organizations,

Mindful that United Nations visiting and special missions provide an effective means of ascertaining the situation in the Territories, that some Territories have not received a United Nations visiting mission for a long time and that no visiting missions have been sent to some of the Territories, and considering the possibility of sending further visiting missions to the Territories at an appropriate time, in consultation with the relevant administering Powers and in accordance with the relevant resolutions and decisions of the United Nations on decolonization,

Mindful also that, in order for the Special Committee to enhance its understanding of the political status of the peoples of the Territories and to fulfil its mandate effectively, it is important for it to be apprised by the relevant administering Powers and to receive information from other appropriate sources, including the representatives of the Territories, concerning the wishes and aspirations of the peoples of the Territories,

Acknowledging the regular transmission by the administering Powers to the Secretary-General of information called for under Article 73 *e* of the Charter,

Aware of the importance both to the Territories and to the Special Committee of the participation of elected and appointed representatives of the Territories in the work of the Committee,

Recognizing the need for the Special Committee to ensure that the appropriate bodies of the United Nations actively pursue a public awareness campaign aimed at assisting the peoples of the Territories in gaining a better understanding of the options for self-determination,

Mindful, in this connection, that the holding of regional seminars in the Caribbean and Pacific regions and at Headquarters, with the active participation of representatives of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, provides a helpful means for the Special Committee to fulfil its mandate, and that the regional nature of the seminars, which alternate between the Caribbean and the Pacific, is a crucial element in the context of a United Nations programme for ascertaining the political status of the Territories,

Noting the stated positions of the representatives of the Non-Self-Governing Territories before the Special Committee and at its regional seminars,

Mindful that the 2009 Caribbean regional seminar was held in Frigate Bay, Saint Kitts and Nevis, from 12 to 14 May,

Conscious of the particular vulnerability of the Territories to natural disasters and environmental degradation, and, in this connection, bearing in mind the applicability to the Territories of the programmes of action or outcome documents of all United Nations world conferences and special sessions of the General Assembly in the economic and social spheres,

Noting with appreciation the contribution to the development of some Territories by the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Development Programme, the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, as well as regional institutions such as the Caribbean Development Bank, the Caribbean Community, the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States, the Pacific Islands Forum and the agencies of the Council of Regional Organizations in the Pacific,

Aware that the Human Rights Committee, as part of its mandate under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[156] reviews the status of the self-determination process, including in small island Territories under examination by the Special Committee,

Recalling the ongoing efforts of the Special Committee in carrying out a critical review of its work with the aim of making appropriate and constructive recommendations and decisions to attain its objectives in accordance with its mandate,

Recognizing that the annual working papers prepared by the Secretariat on developments in each of the small Territories,[157] as well as the substantive documentation and information furnished by experts, scholars, non-governmental organizations and other sources, have provided important inputs to update the present resolutions,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of decolonization resolutions adopted since the declaration of the First and Second International Decades for the Eradication of Colonialism,[158]

1. *Reaffirms* the inalienable right of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to self-determination, in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and with

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[156] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[157] A/AC.109/2009/1, 3-8, 10, 11, 14 and 16.

[158] A/64/70.

General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;

2. *Also reaffirms* that, in the process of decolonization, there is no alternative to the principle of self-determination, which is also a fundamental human right, as recognized under the relevant human rights conventions;

3. *Further reaffirms* that it is ultimately for the peoples of the Territories themselves to determine freely their future political status in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter, the Declaration and the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and in that connection reiterates its long-standing call for the administering Powers, in cooperation with the territorial Governments and appropriate bodies of the United Nations system, to develop political education programmes for the Territories in order to foster an awareness among the people of their right to self-determination in conformity with the legitimate political status options, based on the principles clearly defined in General Assembly resolution 1541 (XV) and other relevant resolutions and decisions;

4. *Stresses* the importance of the Special Committee being apprised of the views and wishes of the peoples of the Territories and enhancing its understanding of their conditions, including the nature and scope of the existing political and constitutional arrangements between the Non-Self-Governing Territories and their respective administering Powers;

5. *Requests* the administering Powers to continue to transmit regularly to the Secretary-General information called for under Article 73 *e* of the Charter;

6. *Calls upon* the administering Powers to participate in and cooperate fully with the work of the Special Committee in order to implement the provisions of Article 73 *e* of the Charter and the Declaration and in order to advise the Special Committee on the implementation of the provisions under Article 73 *b* of the Charter on efforts to promote self-government in the Territories, and encourages the administering Powers to facilitate visiting and special missions to the Territories;

7. *Reaffirms* the responsibility of the administering Powers under the Charter to promote the economic and social development and to preserve the cultural identity of the Territories, and, as a priority, to mitigate the effects of the current global financial crisis where possible, in consultation with the territorial Governments concerned, towards the strengthening and diversification of their respective economies;

8. *Requests* the Territories and the administering Powers to take all measures necessary to protect and conserve the environment of the Territories against any degradation, and once again requests the specialized agencies concerned to continue to monitor environmental conditions in the Territories and to provide assistance to those Territories, consistent with their prevailing rules of procedure;

9. *Welcomes* the participation of the Non-Self-Governing Territories in regional activities, including the work of regional organizations;

10. *Stresses* the importance of implementing the plan of action for the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism,[155] in particular by expediting the application of the work programme for the decolonization of each Non-Self-Governing Territory, on a case-by-case basis, as well as by ensuring that periodic analyses are undertaken of the progress and extent of the implementation of the Declaration in each Territory, and that the working papers prepared by the Secretariat on each Territory should fully reflect developments in those Territories;

11. *Urges* Member States to contribute to the efforts of the United Nations to usher in a world free of colonialism within the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, and calls upon them to continue to give their full support to the Special Committee in its endeavours towards that noble goal;

12. *Stresses* the importance of the various constitutional exercises in the respective Territories administered by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America, and led by the territorial Governments, designed to address internal constitutional structures within the present territorial arrangements, and decides to follow closely the developments concerning the future political status of those Territories;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to report to the General Assembly on a regular basis on the implementation of decolonization resolutions adopted since the declaration of the First and Second International Decades for the Eradication of Colonialism;

14. *Reiterates its request* that the Human Rights Committee collaborate with the Special Committee, within the framework of its mandate on the right to self-determination as contained in the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[156] with the aim of exchanging information, given that the Human Rights Committee is mandated to review the situation, including political and constitutional developments, in many of the Non-Self-Governing Territories that are within the purview of the Special Committee;

15. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to collaborate with the Economic and Social Council and its relevant subsidiary intergovernmental bodies, within the framework of their respective mandates, with the aim of exchanging information on developments in those Non-Self-Governing Territories which are reviewed by those bodies;

16. *Also requests* the Special Committee to continue to examine the question of the Non-Self-Governing Territories and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session and on the implementation of the present resolution.

B

INDIVIDUAL TERRITORIES

The General Assembly,

Referring to resolution A above,

I

American Samoa

Taking note of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on American Samoa[159] and other relevant information,

Aware that under United States law the Secretary of the Interior has administrative jurisdiction over American Samoa,[160]

Noting the position of the administering Power and the statements made by representatives of American Samoa in regional seminars expressing satisfaction with the Territory's present relationship with the United States of America,

Aware of the work of the Future Political Status Study Commission, completed in 2006, and the release of its report, with recommendations, in January 2007, and the Governor's announcement early in 2009 that the report and recommendations of the Commission would be laid before a constitutional convention sometime in 2009,

Noting, in that regard, the information contained in the paper provided by the Chair of the Future Political Status Study Commission and distributed at the 2008 Pacific regional seminar requesting the Special Committee to review the Territory's status as a Non-Self-Governing Territory, with a view to accepting the Territory's future political status once chosen by its people,

Acknowledging the indication by the territorial Government that certain cost-of-living issues, such as inflation, are serious cause for concern,

Aware that American Samoa continues to be the only United States Territory to receive financial assistance from the administering Power for the operations of the territorial Government, and calling upon the administering Power to assist the territorial Government in the diversification of its economy,

1. *Welcomes* the work of the territorial Government and legislature with regard to the recommendations made by the Future Political Status Study Commission, in preparation for a constitutional convention sometime in 2009, addressing issues related to the future status of American Samoa;

2. *Calls upon* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning the intention of holding a constitutional convention sometime in 2009, if requested;

3. *Stresses* the importance of the invitation previously extended to the Special Committee by the Governor of American Samoa to send a visiting mission to the Territory, calls upon the administering Power to facilitate such a mission if the territorial Government so desires, and requests the Chair of the Special Committee to take all the steps necessary to that end;

4. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning a public awareness programme recommended by the Future Political Status Study Commission in its 2007 report, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter of the United Nations and, in that regard, calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

5. *Welcomes* the efforts made by the territorial Government to address employment and cost-of-living issues in various economic sectors;

II

Anguilla

Taking note of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on Anguilla[161] and other relevant information,

Recalling the holding of the 2003 Caribbean regional seminar in Anguilla, hosted by the territorial Government and made possible by the administering Power, the first time that the seminar had been held in a Non-Self-Governing Territory,

Taking note of the statement of the representative of Anguilla at the Caribbean regional seminar, held in Frigate Bay, Saint Kitts and Nevis, from 12 to 14 May 2009,

Taking note also of the internal constitutional review process resumed by the territorial Government in 2006, the work of the Constitutional and Electoral Reform Commission, which prepared its report in August 2006, and the holding of public and other consultative meetings in 2007 on proposed constitutional amendments to be presented to the administering Power, as well as the 2008 decision to set up a drafting team consisting of territorial Government officials, members of the House of Assembly and lawyers to draft a new constitution, to be based on internal self-government for public consultation and subsequent discussion with the administering Power, with the aim of seeking full internal self-government,

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[159] A/AC.109/2009/4.

[160] United States Congress, 1929 (48 U.S.C. Sec. 1661, 45 Stat. 1253), and Secretary's Order 2657, Department of the Interior, United States of America, 1951, as amended.

[161] A/AC.109/2009/11.

Aware that the Government intends to continue its commitment to high-end tourism and the implementation of various regulations in the financial services sector,

Noting the participation of the Territory as an associate member in the Caribbean Community, the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States and the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

1. *Welcomes* the work of the Constitutional and Electoral Reform Commission and its report of 2006, the holding of a public forum in April 2008 to address constitutional reform issues and the subsequent agreement to seek full internal self-government, short of political independence, and the setting up of a drafting group, with the aim of making recommendations to the administering Power on proposed changes to the Constitution of the Territory, using the concept of internal self-government;

2. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory in its current efforts with regard to advancing the internal constitutional review exercise, if requested;

3. *Stresses* the importance of the previously expressed desire of the territorial Government for a visiting mission by the Special Committee, calls upon the administering Power to facilitate such a mission, if the territorial Government so desires, and requests the Chair of the Special Committee to take all the necessary steps to that end;

4. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning public consultative outreach efforts, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter of the United Nations, and, in this regard, calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

III

Bermuda

Taking note of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on Bermuda[162] and other relevant information,

Taking note also of the statement of the representative of Bermuda at the Caribbean regional seminar, held in Frigate Bay, Saint Kitts and Nevis, from 12 to 14 May 2009,

Conscious of the different viewpoints of the political parties on the future status of the Territory, and noting a recent survey by local media on the matter,

Recalling the dispatch of the United Nations special mission to Bermuda in 2005 at the request of the territorial Government and with the concurrence of the administering Power, which provided information to the people of the Territory on the role of the United Nations in the process of self-determination, on the legitimate political status options as clearly defined in General Assembly resolution 1541 (XV) and on the experiences of other small States that have achieved a full measure of self-government,

1. *Stresses* the importance of the 2005 report of the Bermuda Independence Commission, which provides a thorough examination of the facts surrounding independence, and regrets that the plans for public meetings and the presentation of a Green Paper to the House of Assembly followed by a White Paper outlining the policy proposals for an independent Bermuda have so far not materialized;

2. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning public educational outreach efforts, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter of the United Nations, and, in this regard, calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

IV

British Virgin Islands

Taking note of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on the British Virgin Islands[163] and other relevant information,

Taking note also of the statement of the representative of the British Virgin Islands at the Caribbean regional seminar, held in Frigate Bay, Saint Kitts and Nevis, from 12 to 14 May 2009,

Recalling the 1993 report of the Constitutional Commissioners, the 1996 debate on the report in the Legislative Council of the Territory, the establishment of the Constitutional Review Commission in 2004, the completion in 2005 of its report providing recommendations on internal constitutional modernization and the debate held in 2005 on the report in the Legislative Council, as well as the negotiations between the administering Power and the territorial Government, which resulted in the adoption of the new Constitution of the Territory in 2007,

Noting that the 2007 Constitution of the British Virgin Islands provides for a Governor, who maintains reserved powers in the Territory, to be appointed by the administering Power,

Noting also the view expressed in the aforementioned statement made by the representative of the British Virgin Islands at the 2009 Caribbean regional seminar, that, building on the conclusion of the recent internal constitutional modernization exercise, the Territory's focus was on economic development prior to a search for independence,

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[162] A/AC.109/2009/7.

[163] A/AC.109/2009/1.

Noting further the impact of the global financial crisis on the Territory's financial and tourism services sectors,

Cognizant of the potential usefulness of regional ties for the development of a small island Territory,

1. *Welcomes* the new Constitution of the British Virgin Islands, which took effect in June 2007, and notes the continued need expressed by the territorial Government for minor constitutional amendments in the years to come;

2. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning public outreach efforts, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter of the United Nations and, in that regard, calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

3. *Welcomes* the efforts made by the Territory to focus its economic base more on local ownership and on professional service industries other than financial services;

V

Cayman Islands

Taking note of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on the Cayman Islands[164] and other relevant information,

Aware of the 2002 report of the Constitutional Modernization Review Commission, which contained a draft constitution for the consideration of the people of the Territory, the 2003 draft constitution offered by the administering Power and the subsequent discussions between the Territory and the administering Power in 2003, and the reopening of discussions between the administering Power and the territorial Government on internal constitutional modernization, in 2006, which resulted in the finalization of a new draft constitution in February 2009 and its subsequent acceptance by referendum in May 2009,

Noting with interest the establishment of the Cayman Islands Constitutional Review Secretariat, which began its work in March 2007 in support of the Territory's constitution modernization initiative, which comprises four phases with regard to constitutional reform, including research and publicity, consultation and public education, a referendum on reform proposals, and negotiations between the administering Power and the territorial Government,

Welcoming the participation of the Territory as a new associate member of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Acknowledging the indication by the territorial Government that certain cost-of-living issues, such as inflation, continue to be cause for concern,

1. *Welcomes* the finalization of a new draft constitution in February 2009 and its subsequent acceptance by referendum in May 2009;

2. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning public awareness outreach efforts, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter of the United Nations, and, in this regard, calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

3. *Welcomes* the efforts made by the territorial Government to address cost-of-living issues in various economic sectors;

VI

Guam

Taking note of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on Guam[165] and other relevant information,

Aware that under United States law the relations between the territorial Government and the federal Government in all matters that are not the programme responsibility of another federal department or agency are under the general administrative supervision of the Secretary of the Interior,[166]

Recalling that, in a referendum held in 1987, the registered and eligible voters of Guam endorsed a draft Guam Commonwealth Act that would establish a new framework for relations between the Territory and the administering Power, providing for a greater measure of internal self-government for Guam and recognition of the right of the Chamorro people of Guam to self-determination for the Territory,

Recalling also the previously expressed requests by the elected representatives and non-governmental organizations of the Territory that Guam not be removed from the list of the Non-Self-Governing Territories with which the Special Committee is concerned, pending the self-determination of the Chamorro people and taking into account their legitimate rights and interests,

Aware that negotiations between the administering Power and the territorial Government on the draft Guam Commonwealth Act ended in 1997 and that Guam has subsequently established a non-binding plebiscite process for a self-determination vote by the eligible Chamorro voters,

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[164] A/AC.109/2009/8.

[165] A/AC.109/2009/16.

[166] United States Congress, Organic Act of Guam, 1950, as amended.

Cognizant of the importance that the administering Power continues to implement its programme of transferring surplus federal land to the Government of Guam,

Noting that the people of the Territory have called for reform in the programme of the administering Power with respect to the thorough, unconditional and expeditious transfer of land property to the people of Guam,

Aware of deep concerns expressed by civil society and others, including at the meeting of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee of the General Assembly in October 2008, regarding the potential social and other impacts of the impending transfer of additional military personnel of the administering Power to the Territory,

Aware also of the austerity and fiscal measures undertaken by the territorial Government since 2007, when the Governor declared a financial "state of emergency", and of subsequent developments,

Conscious that immigration into Guam has resulted in the indigenous Chamorros becoming a minority in their homeland,

1. *Calls once again upon* the administering Power to take into consideration the expressed will of the Chamorro people as supported by Guam voters in the referendum of 1987 and as subsequently provided for in Guam law regarding Chamorro self-determination efforts, and encourages the administering Power and the territorial Government to enter into negotiations on the matter;

2. *Requests* the administering Power, in cooperation with the territorial Government, to continue to transfer land to the original landowners of the Territory, to continue to recognize and to respect the political rights and the cultural and ethnic identity of the Chamorro people of Guam and to take all measures necessary to address the concerns of the territorial Government with regard to the question of immigration;

3. *Also requests* the administering Power to cooperate in establishing programmes for the sustainable development of the economic activities and enterprises of the Territory, noting the special role of the Chamorro people in the development of Guam;

4. *Recalls* the request made previously by the elected Governor to the administering Power to lift restrictions to allow for foreign airlines to transport passengers between Guam and the United States of America to provide for a more competitive market and increased visitor arrivals;

5. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating public outreach efforts, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter of the United Nations, and, in this regard, calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

VII

Montserrat

Taking note of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on Montserrat[167] and other relevant information,

Taking note also of the statement of the representative of Montserrat at the Caribbean regional seminar, held in Frigate Bay, Saint Kitts and Nevis, from 12 to 14 May 2009,

Recalling the 2002 report of the Constitutional Review Commission, the convening of a committee of the House of Assembly in 2005 to review the report and the subsequent discussions between the administering Power and the territorial Government on internal constitutional advancement and devolution of power,

Noting that the negotiating process with the administering Power on a draft constitution giving greater autonomy to the territorial Government proceeded during 2008, and that, since March 2009, the administering Power has accorded stronger emphasis to the redevelopment of the Territory,

Aware that Montserrat continues to receive budgetary aid from the administering Power for the operation of the territorial Government,

Recalling the statements made by participants at the 2007 Caribbean regional seminar encouraging the administering Power to commit sufficient resources to meet the Territory's special needs,

Noting with concern the continued consequences of the volcanic eruption, which led to the evacuation of three quarters of the Territory's population to safe areas of the island and to areas outside the Territory, which continues to have enduring consequences for the economy of the island,

Acknowledging the continued assistance provided to the Territory by States members of the Caribbean Community, in particular Antigua and Barbuda, which has offered safe refuge and access to educational and health facilities, as well as employment for thousands who have left the Territory,

Noting the continuing efforts of the administering Power and the territorial Government to deal with the consequences of the volcanic eruption,

1. *Welcomes* the efforts of the territorial Government to continue to negotiate improvements to the Constitution of the Territory so as to preserve its ability to move towards full self-government, notes the efforts of the administering Power to support the redevelopment of the Territory, and encourages them to mutually reinforce their efforts;

2. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning public outreach

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[167] A/AC.109/2009/6.

efforts, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter of the United Nations, and, in this regard, calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

3. *Calls upon* the administering Power, the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, as well as regional and other organizations, to continue to provide assistance to the Territory in alleviating the consequences of the volcanic eruption;

VIII

Pitcairn

Taking note of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on Pitcairn[168] and other relevant information,

Taking into account the unique character of Pitcairn in terms of population and area,

Noting that the internal review of the Constitution of the Territory is still deferred,

Aware that the administering Power and the territorial Government are in the process of restructuring the relationship between the Governor's Office and the territorial Government, based on consultations with the people of the Territory, and that Pitcairn continues to receive budgetary aid from the administering Power for the operation of the territorial Government,

1. *Welcomes* all efforts by the administering Power that would devolve operational responsibilities to the territorial Government, with a view to expanding self-government;

2. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning public outreach efforts, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter of the United Nations, and, in this regard, calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

3. *Also requests* the administering Power to continue its assistance for the improvement of the economic, social, educational and other conditions of the population of the Territory and to continue its discussions with the territorial Government on how best to support economic security in Pitcairn;

IX

Saint Helena

Taking note of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on Saint Helena[169] and other relevant information,

Taking note also of the statement of the representative of Saint Helena at the Caribbean regional seminar, held in Frigate Bay, Saint Kitts and Nevis, from 12 to 14 May 2009,

Taking into account the unique character of Saint Helena in terms of its population, geography and natural resources,

Noting the internal constitutional review process led by the territorial Government since 2001, the completion of a draft constitution following negotiations between the administering Power and the territorial Government in 2003 and 2004, the consultative poll with regard to a new Constitution, held in Saint Helena in May 2005, the subsequent preparation of a revised draft constitution and its publication in June 2008 for further public consultation, and the entry into force of the new Constitution for Saint Helena, Ascension and Tristan da Cunha on 1 September 2009,

Noting in that regard the importance of the right to nationality for Saint Helenians and their previously expressed request that the right, in principle, be included in a new constitution,

Aware that Saint Helena continues to receive budgetary aid from the administering Power for the operation of the territorial Government,

Aware also of the efforts of the administering Power and the territorial Government to improve the socio-economic conditions of the population of Saint Helena, in particular in the areas of employment and transport and communications infrastructure,

Noting the efforts of the Territory to address the problem of unemployment on the island and the joint action of the administering Power and the territorial Government in dealing with it,

Noting also the importance of improving the infrastructure and accessibility of Saint Helena,

Noting in this regard the administering Power's decision in December 2008 to pause the negotiations on the Saint Helena airport,

1. *Welcomes* the entry into force of the Territory's new Constitution on 1 September 2009;

2. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning public outreach efforts, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter of the United Nations and, in that regard, calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

3. *Requests* the administering Power and relevant international organizations to continue to support the efforts of the territorial Government to address the Territory's socio-economic development challenges, including unemployment, and limited transport and communications infrastructure;

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[168] A/AC.109/2009/3.

[169] A/AC.109/2009/5.

4. *Notes* the decision by the administering Power to consult on whether an airport is the most appropriate option for access to Saint Helena in the current economic climate, and calls upon the administering Power to take into account the unique geographical character of Saint Helena in the process of consultation;

X

Turks and Caicos Islands

Taking note of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on the Turks and Caicos Islands[170] and other relevant information,

Taking note also of the statement of the representative of the Turks and Caicos Islands at the Caribbean regional seminar, held in Frigate Bay, Saint Kitts and Nevis, from 12 to 14 May 2009,

Recalling the dispatch of the United Nations special mission to the Turks and Caicos Islands in 2006, at the request of the territorial Government and with the concurrence of the administering Power,

Recalling also the 2002 report of the Constitutional Modernization Review Body, and acknowledging the Constitution agreed between the administering Power and the territorial Government, which entered into force in 2006,

Noting that the 2006 Constitution of the Turks and Caicos Islands provides for a Governor, who maintains reserved powers in the Territory, to be appointed by the administering Power,

Noting also the administering Power's decision to suspend parts of the 2006 Constitution of the Turks and Caicos Islands, covering the constitutional right to trial by jury, ministerial Government, and the House of Assembly, following the recommendations of an independent Commission of Inquiry and the ruling of the administering Power's Court of Appeal,

Acknowledging the impact that the global financial crisis has had on tourism and related real estate development, the mainstays of the Territory's economy,

1. *Recalls* the Constitution of the Territory, which took effect in 2006, and notes the view of the former territorial Government that there remains scope for a degree of delegation of the Governor's power to the Territory so as to secure greater autonomy;

2. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning public outreach efforts, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter of the United Nations and, in that regard, calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

3. *Notes with concern* the ongoing situation in the Turks and Caicos Islands, and also notes the efforts of the administering Power to restore good governance and sound financial management in the Territory;

4. *Calls for* restoration of constitutional arrangements providing for representative democracy through elected territorial Government as soon as possible;

5. *Welcomes* the continuing efforts made by the Government addressing the need for attention to be paid to the enhancement of social cohesion across the Territory;

XI

United States Virgin Islands

Taking note of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on the United States Virgin Islands[171] and other relevant information,

Aware that under United States law the relations between the territorial Government and the federal Government in all matters not the programme responsibility of another federal department or agency are under the general administrative supervision of the Secretary of the Interior,[172]

Aware also of the ongoing Constitutional Convention, the fifth attempt of the Territory to review the existing Revised Organic Act, which organizes its internal governance arrangements, as well as the various related efforts in implementing a public education programme on the constitution, as outlined in a statement by a participant from the Territory presented at the Caribbean regional seminar, held in Frigate Bay, St. Kitts and Nevis, from 12 to 14 May 2009,

Cognizant that the draft constitution is expected to be finalized by the territorial Government in 2009 and forwarded to the administering Power for review and action,

Cognizant also of the potential usefulness of regional ties for the development of a small island Territory,

1. *Welcomes* the establishment of the Constitutional Convention in 2007, and requests the administering Power to assist the territorial Government in achieving its political, economic and social goals, in particular the successful conclusion of the ongoing internal Constitutional Convention exercise;

2. *Requests* the administering Power to facilitate the process for approval of the territorial draft constitution in the United States Congress, once agreed upon by the territorial Government;

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[170] A/AC.109/2009/10.

[171] A/AC.109/2009/14.

[172] United States Congress, Revised Organic Act, 1954.

3. *Also requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning a public education programme, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter of the United Nations, and, in this regard, calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

4. *Reiterates its call* for the inclusion of the Territory in regional programmes of the United Nations Development Programme, consistent with the participation of other Non-Self-Governing Territories.

RESOLUTION 64/105

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 10 December 2009, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/413, para. 22),[173] by a recorded vote of 173 to 3, with 1 abstention, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: France

64/105. Dissemination of information on decolonization

The General Assembly,

Having examined the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples relating to the dissemination of information on decolonization and publicity for the work of the United Nations in the field of decolonization,[174]

Recalling General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and other resolutions and decisions of the United Nations concerning the dissemination of information on decolonization, in particular Assembly resolution 63/109 of 5 December 2008,

Recognizing the need for flexible, practical and innovative approaches towards reviewing the options of self-determination for the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories with a view to implementing the plan of action for the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism,[175]

Reiterating the importance of dissemination of information as an instrument for furthering the aims of the Declaration, and mindful of the role of world public opinion in effectively assisting the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories to achieve self-determination,

Recognizing the role played by the administering Powers in transmitting information to the Secretary-General in accordance with the terms of Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recognizing also the role of the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat, through the United Nations information centres, in the dissemination of information at the regional level on the activities of the United Nations,

Recalling the issuance by the Department of Public Information, in consultation with the United Nations Development Programme, the specialized agencies and the Special Committee, of an information leaflet on assistance programmes available to the Non-Self-Governing Territories,

Aware of the role of non-governmental organizations in the dissemination of information on decolonization,

1. *Approves* the activities in the field of dissemination of information on decolonization undertaken by the Department of Public Information and the Department of Political Affairs of the Secretariat, in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations on decolonization, in particular the publication, in accordance with General Assembly resolution

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[173] The draft resolution recommended in the report of the Fourth Committee was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

[174] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 23* and corrigendum (A/64/23 and Corr.2), chap. III.

[175] A/56/61, annex.

61/129 of 14 December 2006, of the information leaflet entitled "What the UN Can Do to Assist Non-Self-Governing Territories", which was updated for the United Nations website on decolonization in May 2009, and encourages continued updating and wide dissemination of the information leaflet;

2. *Considers it important* to continue and expand its efforts to ensure the widest possible dissemination of information on decolonization, with particular emphasis on the options of self-determination available for the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories, and to this end, requests the Department of Public Information through the United Nations information centres in the relevant regions to actively engage and seek new and innovative ways to disseminate material to the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to further enhance the information provided on the United Nations decolonization website and to continue to include the full series of reports of the regional seminars on decolonization, the statements and scholarly papers presented at those seminars and links to the full series of reports of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;

4. *Requests* the Department of Public Information to continue its efforts to update web-based information on the assistance programmes available to the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

5. *Requests* the Department of Political Affairs and the Department of Public Information to implement the recommendations of the Special Committee and to continue their efforts to take measures through all the media available, including publications, radio and television, as well as the Internet, to give publicity to the work of the United Nations in the field of decolonization and, inter alia:

(*a*) To develop procedures to collect, prepare and disseminate, particularly to the Non-Self-Governing Territories, basic material on the issue of self-determination of the peoples of the Territories;

(*b*) To seek the full cooperation of the administering Powers in the discharge of the tasks referred to above;

(*c*) To explore further the idea of a programme of collaboration with the decolonization focal points of territorial Governments, particularly in the Pacific and Caribbean regions, to help improve the exchange of information;

(*d*) To encourage the involvement of non-governmental organizations in the dissemination of information on decolonization;

(*e*) To encourage the involvement of the Non-Self-Governing Territories in the dissemination of information on decolonization;

(*f*) To report to the Special Committee on measures taken in the implementation of the present resolution;

6. *Requests* all States, including the administering Powers, to accelerate the dissemination of information referred to in paragraph 2 above;

7. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to examine this question and to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 64/106

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 10 December 2009, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/413, para. 22),[176] by a recorded vote of 172 to 3, with 2 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Belgium, France

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[176] The draft resolution recommended in the report of the Fourth Committee was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

64/106. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples

The General Assembly,

Having examined the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,[177]

Recalling its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and all its subsequent resolutions concerning the implementation of the Declaration, the most recent of which was resolution 63/110 of 5 December 2008, as well as the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

Bearing in mind its resolution 55/146 of 8 December 2000, by which it declared the period 2001–2010 the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, and the need to examine ways to ascertain the wishes of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories on the basis of resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions on decolonization,

Recognizing that the eradication of colonialism has been one of the priorities of the United Nations and continues to be one of its priorities for the decade that began in 2001,

Reconfirming the need to take measures to eliminate colonialism by 2010, as called for in its resolution 55/146,

Reiterating its conviction of the need for the eradication of colonialism, as well as racial discrimination and violations of basic human rights,

Noting with satisfaction the achievements of the Special Committee in contributing to the effective and complete implementation of the Declaration and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations on decolonization,

Stressing the importance of the formal participation of the administering Powers in the work of the Special Committee,

Noting with satisfaction the cooperation and active participation of administering Powers in the work of the Special Committee, and encouraging the others also to do so,

Noting that the Caribbean regional seminar was held in Frigate Bay, Saint Kitts and Nevis, from 12 to 14 May 2009,

1. *Reaffirms* its resolution 1514 (XV) and all other resolutions and decisions on decolonization, including its resolution 55/146, by which it declared the period 2001–2010 the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, and calls upon the administering Powers, in accordance with those resolutions, to take all steps necessary to enable the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories concerned to exercise fully as soon as possible their right to self-determination, including independence;

2. *Reaffirms once again* that the existence of colonialism in any form or manifestation, including economic exploitation, is incompatible with the Charter of the United Nations, the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;[178]

3. *Reaffirms its determination* to continue to take all steps necessary to bring about the complete and speedy eradication of colonialism and the faithful observance by all States of the relevant provisions of the Charter, the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;

4. *Affirms once again its support* for the aspirations of the peoples under colonial rule to exercise their right to self-determination, including independence, in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations on decolonization;

5. *Calls upon* the administering Powers to cooperate fully with the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to develop and finalize, before the end of the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, a constructive programme of work on a case-by-case basis for the Non-Self-Governing Territories to facilitate the implementation of the mandate of the Special Committee and the relevant resolutions on decolonization, including resolutions on specific Territories;

6. *Recalls with satisfaction* the professional, open and transparent conduct of both the February 2006 and the October 2007 referendums to determine the future status of Tokelau, monitored by the United Nations;

7. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to seek suitable means for the immediate and full implementation of the Declaration and to carry out the actions approved by the General Assembly regarding the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism and the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism in all Territories that have not yet exercised their right to self-determination, including independence, and in particular:

(*a*) To formulate specific proposals to bring about an end to colonialism and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session;

(*b*) To continue to examine the implementation by Member States of resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions on decolonization;

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[177] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 23* and corrigendum (A/64/23 and Corr.2).

[178] Resolution 217 A (III).

(*c*) To continue to examine the political, economic and social situation in the Non-Self-Governing Territories, and to recommend, as appropriate, to the General Assembly the most suitable steps to be taken to enable the populations of those Territories to exercise their right to self-determination, including independence, in accordance with the relevant resolutions on decolonization, including resolutions on specific Territories;

(*d*) To develop and finalize, before the end of the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism and in cooperation with the administering Power and the Territory in question, a constructive programme of work on a case-by-case basis for the Non-Self-Governing Territories to facilitate the implementation of the mandate of the Special Committee and the relevant resolutions on decolonization, including resolutions on specific Territories;

(*e*) To continue to dispatch visiting and special missions to the Non-Self-Governing Territories in accordance with the relevant resolutions on decolonization, including resolutions on specific Territories;

(*f*) To conduct seminars, as appropriate, for the purpose of receiving and disseminating information on the work of the Special Committee, and to facilitate participation by the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories in those seminars;

(*g*) To take all steps necessary to enlist worldwide support among Governments, as well as national and international organizations, for the achievement of the objectives of the Declaration and the implementation of the relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

(*h*) To observe annually the Week of Solidarity with the Peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories;[179]

8. *Recognizes* that the plan of action for the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism[180] represents an important legislative authority for the attainment of self-government by the Non-Self-Governing Territories, and that the case-by-case assessment of the attainment of self-government in each Territory can make an important contribution to this process;

9. *Calls upon* all States, in particular the administering Powers, as well as the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, to give effect within their respective spheres of competence to the recommendations of the Special Committee for the implementation of the Declaration and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

10. *Calls upon* the administering Powers to ensure that economic and other activities in the Non-Self-Governing Territories under their administration do not adversely affect the interests of the peoples but instead promote development, and to assist them in the exercise of their right to self-determination;

11. *Urges* the administering Powers concerned to take effective measures to safeguard and guarantee the inalienable rights of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to their natural resources, and to establish and maintain control over the future development of those resources, and requests the relevant administering Power to take all steps necessary to protect the property rights of the peoples of those Territories;

12. *Urges* all States, directly and through their action in the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, to provide moral and material assistance, as needed, to the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, and requests the administering Powers to take steps to enlist and make effective use of all possible assistance, on both a bilateral and a multilateral basis, in the strengthening of the economies of those Territories;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General, the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to provide economic, social and other assistance to the Non-Self-Governing Territories and to continue to do so, as appropriate, after they exercise their right to self-determination, including independence;

14. *Reaffirms* that the United Nations visiting missions to the Territories are an effective means of ascertaining the situation in the Territories, as well as the wishes and aspirations of their inhabitants, and calls upon the administering Powers to continue to cooperate with the Special Committee in the discharge of its mandate and to facilitate visiting missions to the Territories;

15. *Calls upon* all the administering Powers to cooperate fully in the work of the Special Committee and to participate formally in its future sessions;

16. *Approves* the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples covering its work during 2009, including the programme of work envisaged for 2010;[177]

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the Special Committee with the facilities and services required for the implementation of the present resolution, as well as the other resolutions and decisions on decolonization adopted by the General Assembly and the Special Committee.

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[179] See resolution 54/91.

[180] A/56/61, annex.

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RESOLUTION 64/73

Adopted at the 59th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/420/Add.4, para. 10)[1]

64/73. Protection of global climate for present and future generations of humankind

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 43/53 of 6 December 1988, 54/222 of 22 December 1999, 62/86 of 10 December 2007, 63/32 of 26 November 2008 and resolutions and decisions relating to the protection of the global climate for present and future generations of mankind,

Recalling also the provisions of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,[2] including the acknowledgement that the global nature of climate change calls for the widest possible cooperation by all countries and their participation in an effective and appropriate international response, in accordance with their common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities and their social and economic conditions,

Recalling further the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[3] in which Heads of State and Government resolved to make every effort to ensure the entry into force of the Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[4] and to embark on the required reduction in emissions of greenhouse gases,

Recalling the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development,[5] the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),[6] the outcome of the thirteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention and the third session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol, held in Bali, Indonesia, from 3 to 15 December 2007,[7] the outcome of the fourteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention and the fourth session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol, held in Poznan, Poland, from 1 to 12 December 2008,[8] and the outcomes of all previous sessions,

Reaffirming the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[9] the Mauritius Declaration[10] and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[11]

Recalling the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[12]

Remaining deeply concerned that all countries, in particular developing countries, including the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, small island developing States and countries in Africa, face increased risks from the adverse effects of climate change, and stressing the need to address adaptation needs relating to such effects,

Noting that, to date, there are one hundred and ninety-four parties to the Convention, including one hundred and ninety-three States and one regional economic integration organization,

Noting also that, currently, the Kyoto Protocol has attracted one hundred and ninety ratifications, accessions, acceptances or approvals, including by thirty-nine parties included in annex I to the Convention,

Noting further the amendment to annex B to the Kyoto Protocol,[13]

Noting the work of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and the need to build and enhance scientific and technological capabilities, inter alia, through continuing support to the Panel for the exchange of scientific data and information, especially in developing countries,

Noting also the significance of the scientific findings of the fourth assessment report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, providing an integrated scientific, technical and socio-economic perspective on relevant issues and contributing positively to the discussions under the

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[1] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Rapporteur of the Committee.

[2] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[3] See resolution 55/2.

[4] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2303, No. 30822.

[5] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[6] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

[7] See FCCC/CP/2007/6/Add.1 and 2 and FCCC/KP/CMP/2007/9/Add.1 and 2.

[8] See FCCC/CP/2008/7 and Add.1 and FCCC/KP/CMP/2008/11 and Add.1 and 2.

[9] *Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April–6 May 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[10] *Report of the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Port Louis, Mauritius, 10–14 January 2005* (United Nations publication, Sales No E.05.II.A.4 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[11] Ibid., annex II.

[12] See resolution 60/1.

[13] FCCC/KP/CMP/2006/10/Add.1, decision 10/CMP.2, annex.

Convention and the understanding of the phenomenon of climate change, including its impacts and risks,

Reaffirming that economic and social development and poverty eradication are global priorities,

Recognizing that deep cuts in global emissions will be required to achieve the ultimate objective of the Convention,

Reaffirming its commitment to the ultimate objective of the Convention, namely, to stabilize greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that prevents dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system, and also reaffirming that such a level should be achieved within a time frame sufficient to allow ecosystems to adapt naturally to climate change, to ensure that food production is not threatened and to enable economic development to proceed in a sustainable manner,

Reaffirming the financial obligations of developed country parties and other developed parties included in annex II under the Convention and the Kyoto Protocol,

Taking note of the initiative by the Secretary-General in convening a summit on climate change on 22 September 2009, and welcoming the determination reiterated by Member States on that occasion to urgently address the challenge of climate change,

Taking note also of the holding of World Climate Conference 3 in Geneva from 31 August to 4 September 2009 and the holding by the Government of Indonesia of the World Ocean Conference in Manado from 11 to 15 May 2009,

Taking note further of the high-level conference on "Climate Change: Technology Development and Transfer", held in New Delhi on 22 and 23 October 2009,

Acknowledging women as key actors in the efforts towards sustainable development, and recognizing that a gender perspective can contribute to efforts to address climate change,

Taking note of the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,[14]

1. *Stresses* the seriousness of climate change, and calls upon States to work cooperatively towards achieving the ultimate objective of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[2] through the urgent implementation of its provisions;

2. *Notes* that States that have ratified the Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[4] welcome the entry into force of the Protocol on 16 February 2005, and strongly urge States that have not yet done so to ratify it in a timely manner;

3. *Takes note* of the outcome of the fourteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention and the fourth session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol, hosted by the Government of Poland from 1 to 12 December 2008;[8]

4. *Takes note with appreciation* of the offer of the Government of Denmark to host the fifteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention and the fifth session of the Conference of Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol, to be held in Copenhagen from 7 to 18 December 2009;

5. *Notes* the ongoing parallel work of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action under the Convention and the Ad Hoc Working Group on Further Commitments for Annex I Parties under the Kyoto Protocol, and that the respective parties to the Convention and the Kyoto Protocol call for the completion of this work;

6. *Encourages* Member States to approach Copenhagen with ambition, optimism and determination, with a view to making the United Nations Climate Change Conference a success;

7. *Takes note with appreciation*, in this regard, of the offer of the Government of Mexico to host the sixteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention and the sixth session of the Conference of Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol, to be held in Mexico City in 2010;

8. *Urges* parties to the Convention, and invites parties to the Kyoto Protocol to the Convention, to continue to make use of the information contained in the fourth assessment report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change in their work;

9. *Recognizes* that climate change poses serious risks and challenges to all countries, particularly developing countries, especially the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, small island developing States and countries in Africa, including those that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change, and calls upon States to take urgent global action to address climate change in accordance with the principles identified in the Convention, including the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, and in this regard urges all countries to fully implement their commitments under the Convention, to take effective and concrete actions and measures at all levels and to enhance international cooperation in the framework of the Convention;

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[14] See A/64/202, chap. I.

10. *Reaffirms* that efforts to address climate change in a manner that enhances the sustainable development and sustained economic growth of the developing countries and the eradication of poverty should be carried out by promoting the integration of the three components of sustainable development, namely, economic development, social development and environmental protection, as interdependent and mutually reinforcing pillars, in an integrated, coordinated and balanced manner;

11. *Recognizes* the urgency of providing financial and technical resources, as well as capacity-building and access to and transfer of technology, to assist those developing countries adversely affected by climate change;

12. *Invites* the international community to fulfil the commitments made during the fourth replenishment and to secure a successful fifth replenishment of the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund, without prejudice to ongoing discussions on financial mechanisms under the Convention;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to make provisions for the sessions of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention and its subsidiary bodies in his proposal for the programme budget for the biennium 2010–2011;

14. *Notes* the ongoing work of the liaison group of the secretariats and offices of the relevant subsidiary bodies of the Framework Convention, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,[15] and the Convention on Biological Diversity,[16] and encourages close cooperation to promote complementarities among the three secretariats while respecting their independent legal status;

15. *Invites* the conferences of the parties to the multilateral environmental conventions, when setting the dates of their meetings, to take into consideration the schedule of meetings of the General Assembly and the Commission on Sustainable Development so as to ensure the adequate representation of developing countries at those meetings;

16. *Invites* the secretariat of the Framework Convention to report, through the Secretary-General, to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session on the work of the Conference of the Parties;

17. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the sub-item entitled "Protection of global climate for present and future generations of humankind".

RESOLUTION 64/185

Adopted at the 66th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2009, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/416, para. 13),[17] by a recorded vote of 165 to 8, with 7 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Australia, Canada, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Palau, United States of America

Abstaining: Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Fiji, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Tonga, Tuvalu

64/185. Permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 63/201 of 19 December 2008, and taking note of Economic and Social Council resolution 2009/34 of 31 July 2009,

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[15] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1954, No. 33480.

[16] Ibid., vol. 1760, No. 30619.

[17] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Bahrain, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Mauritania, Morocco, Namibia, Nicaragua, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen and Palestine.

Recalling also its resolutions 58/292 of 6 May 2004 and 59/251 of 22 December 2004,

Reaffirming the principle of the permanent sovereignty of peoples under foreign occupation over their natural resources,

Guided by the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, affirming the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force, and recalling relevant Security Council resolutions, including resolutions 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967, 465 (1980) of 1 March 1980 and 497 (1981) of 17 December 1981,

Recalling its resolution 2625 (XXV) of 24 October 1970,

Reaffirming the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[18] to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967,

Recalling, in this regard, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights[19] and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[19] and affirming that these human rights instruments must be respected in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, as well as in the occupied Syrian Golan,

Recalling also the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice on the *Legal Consequences of the Construction of a Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory*,[20] and recalling further its resolutions ES-10/15 of 20 July 2004 and ES-10/17 of 15 December 2006,

Expressing its concern at the exploitation by Israel, the occupying Power, of the natural resources of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967,

Expressing its grave concern at the extensive destruction by Israel, the occupying Power, of agricultural land and orchards in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including the uprooting of a vast number of fruit-bearing trees and the destruction of farms and greenhouses,

Expressing its concern at the widespread destruction caused by Israel, the occupying Power, to vital infrastructure, including water pipelines and sewage networks, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, in particular in the Gaza Strip in the recent period, which, inter alia, pollutes the environment and negatively affects the water supply and other natural resources of the Palestinian people,

Taking note, in this regard, of the recent report by the United Nations Environment Programme regarding the grave environmental situation in the Gaza Strip,[21] and stressing the need for follow-up to the recommendations therein,

Aware of the detrimental impact of the Israeli settlements on Palestinian and other Arab natural resources, especially as a result of the confiscation of land and the forced diversion of water resources, and of the dire socio-economic consequences in this regard,

Aware also of the detrimental impact on Palestinian natural resources being caused by the unlawful construction of the wall by Israel, the occupying Power, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in and around East Jerusalem, and of its grave effect as well on the economic and social conditions of the Palestinian people,

Reaffirming the need for the resumption and advancement of negotiations within the Middle East peace process, on the basis of Security Council resolutions 242 (1967), 338 (1973) of 22 October 1973, 425 (1978) of 19 March 1978 and 1397 (2002) of 12 March 2002, the principle of land for peace, the Arab Peace Initiative,[22] and the Quartet performance-based road map to a permanent two-State solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict,[23] as endorsed by the Security Council in its resolution 1515 (2003) of 19 November 2003 and supported by the Council in its resolution 1850 (2008) of 16 December 2008, for the achievement of a final settlement on all tracks,

Noting the Israeli withdrawal from within the Gaza Strip and parts of the northern West Bank and the importance of the dismantlement of settlements therein in the context of the road map,

Stressing the need for respect and preservation of the territorial unity, contiguity and integrity of all of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem,

Recalling the need to end all acts of violence, including acts of terror, provocation, incitement and destruction,

Taking note of the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report prepared by the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia on the economic and social repercussions of the Israeli occupation on the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan,[24]

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[18] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

[19] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[20] See A/ES-10/273 and Corr.1; see also *Legal Consequences of the Construction of a Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, Advisory Opinion, I.C.J. Reports 2004*, p. 136.

[21] United Nations Environment Programme, *Environmental Assessment of the Gaza Strip following the Escalation of Hostilities in December 2008-January 2009* (Nairobi, 2009).

[22] A/56/1026-S/2002/932, annex II, resolution 14/221.

[23] See S/2003/529, annex.

[24] A/64/77-E/2009/13.

1. *Reaffirms* the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people and the population of the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources, including land and water;

2. *Demands* that Israel, the occupying Power, cease the exploitation, damage, cause of loss or depletion of, or endangerment of the natural resources in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan;

3. *Recognizes* the right of the Palestinian people to claim restitution as a result of any exploitation, damage, loss or depletion, or endangerment of their natural resources resulting from illegal measures taken by Israel, the occupying Power, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and expresses the hope that this issue will be dealt with in the framework of the final status negotiations between the Palestinian and Israeli sides;

4. *Stresses* that the wall being constructed by Israel in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in and around East Jerusalem, is contrary to international law and is seriously depriving the Palestinian people of their natural resources, and calls in this regard for full compliance with the legal obligations mentioned in the 9 July 2004 advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice[20] and in resolution ES-10/15;

5. *Calls upon* Israel, the occupying Power, to comply strictly with its obligations under international law, including international humanitarian law, with respect to the alteration of the character and status of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem;

6. *Also calls upon* Israel, the occupying Power, to cease all actions harming the environment, including the dumping of all kinds of waste materials in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan, which gravely threaten their natural resources, namely water and land resources, and which pose an environmental, sanitation and health threat to the civilian populations;

7. *Further calls upon* Israel to cease its destruction of vital infrastructure, including water pipelines and sewage networks, which, inter alia, has a negative impact on the natural resources of the Palestinian people;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to it at its sixty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution, and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled "Permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources".

RESOLUTION 64/186

Adopted at the 66th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/417, para. 16)[25]

64/186. Building connectivity through the Trans-Eurasian Information Super Highway

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Declaration of Principles and the Plan of Action adopted by the World Summit on the Information Society at its first phase, held in Geneva from 10 to 12 December 2003,[26] and endorsed by the General Assembly,[27] and the Tunis Commitment and the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society adopted by the Summit at its second phase, held in Tunis from 16 to 18 November 2005,[28] and endorsed by the General Assembly,[29]

Recalling also the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[30]

Stressing the need to reduce the digital divide and to ensure that the benefits of new technologies, especially information and communication technologies, are available to all,

Noting that Governments, as well as the private sector, civil society and the United Nations, and other international organizations, have an important role in bridging the digital divide for the benefit of all and in building an inclusive and people-centred information society,

Recognizing that well-developed information and communication network infrastructures, such as information superhighways, act as one of the main technological enablers of the digital opportunities, and noting, in this regard, the Regional Ministerial Meeting on the Trans-Eurasian Information Super Highway convened by the Government of Azerbaijan in cooperation with the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, held in Baku on 11 November 2008,

1. *Recognizes* that information and communication technologies have the potential to provide new solutions to

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[25] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Australia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bulgaria, Canada, China, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Germany, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Israel, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Pakistan, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Slovenia, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Turkey, Ukraine, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America and Uzbekistan.

[26] See A/C.2/59/3, annex.

[27] See resolution 59/220.

[28] See A/60/687.

[29] See resolution 60/252.

[30] See resolution 60/1.

development challenges, particularly in the context of globalization, and can foster economic growth, competitiveness, access to information and knowledge, poverty eradication and social inclusion that will help to expedite the integration of all countries, particularly developing countries, into the global economy;

2. *Also recognizes* the immense potential that building connectivity can have in contributing to social progress, including in advancing the status of women and promoting social integration and tolerance;

3. *Stresses* the importance of strengthened and continued cooperation among all stakeholders to build and run information infrastructures to bridge the digital divide in the region, and encourages interested Member States to participate in the development of regional connectivity solutions;

4. *Recognizes* the need to build connectivity in the region to help to bridge the digital divide, and in this regard welcomes the Trans-Eurasian Information Super Highway initiative and the readiness of the Republic of Azerbaijan to coordinate regional efforts aimed at realizing this initiative.

RESOLUTION 64/187

Adopted at the 66th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/417, para. 16)[31]

64/187. Information and communication technologies for development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 56/183 of 21 December 2001, 57/238 of 20 December 2002, 57/270 B of 23 June 2003, 59/220 of 22 December 2004, 60/252 of 27 March 2006 and 62/182 of 19 December 2007, Economic and Social Council resolution 2008/3 of 18 July 2008, its resolution 63/202 of 19 December 2008 and other relevant resolutions,

Noting that cultural diversity is the common heritage of humankind and that the information society should be founded on and stimulate respect for cultural identity, cultural and linguistic diversity, traditions and religions, and foster dialogue among cultures and civilizations, and noting also that the promotion, affirmation and preservation of diverse cultural identities and languages as reflected in relevant agreed United Nations documents, including the Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization,[32] will further enrich the information society,

Recalling the Declaration of Principles and the Plan of Action adopted by the World Summit on the Information Society at its first phase, held in Geneva from 10 to 12 December 2003,[33] as endorsed by the General Assembly,[34] and the Tunis Commitment and the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society adopted by the Summit at its second phase, held in Tunis from 16 to 18 November 2005,[35] and endorsed by the General Assembly,[36]

Recalling also the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[37]

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the World Summit on the Information Society outcomes at the regional and international levels,[38]

Stressing the need to reduce the digital divide and to ensure that the benefits of new technologies, especially information and communication technologies, are available to all,

Recognizing the importance of the mandate of the Internet Governance Forum, as a multi-stakeholder dialogue to discuss various matters, including public policy issues related to key elements of Internet governance, in order to foster the sustainability, robustness, security, stability and development of the Internet, and reiterating that all Governments, on an equal footing, should carry out their roles and responsibilities for international Internet governance and for ensuring the stability, security and continuity of the Internet, but not with regard to the day-to-day technical and operational matters that do not impact on international public policy issues,

Taking note of the discussions at the fourth meeting of the Internet Governance Forum, held in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, from 15 to 18 November 2009, on the future of the Forum, which generally welcomed the renewal of its mandate and recognized the need for further discussion on the improvement of its working methods,

Recalling the first, second, third and fourth meetings of the Internet Governance Forum, held in Athens from

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[31] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee.

[32] United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Thirty-first Session, Paris, 15 October–3 November 2001*, vol. I and corrigendum, *Resolutions*, chap. V, resolution 25, annex I.

[33] See A/C.2/59/3, annex.

[34] See resolution 59/220.

[35] See A/60/687.

[36] See resolution 60/252.

[37] See resolution 60/1.

[38] A/64/64-E/2009/10.

30 October to 2 November 2006, in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 12 to 15 November 2007, in Hyderabad, India, from 3 to 6 December 2008, and in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, from 15 to 18 November 2009, respectively, and welcoming the convening of the fifth meeting of the Forum, to be held in Vilnius from 14 to 17 September 2010,

Welcoming, in view of the existing gaps in information and communication technologies infrastructure, the Connect Africa summits held in Kigali on 29 and 30 October 2007 and in Cairo from 12 to 15 May 2008 and the Connect the Commonwealth of Independent States summit held in Minsk on 26 and 27 November 2009, which are regional initiatives aimed at mobilizing human, financial and technical resources to accelerate the implementation of the connectivity goals of the World Summit on the Information Society,

Recognizing the role of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development in assisting the Economic and Social Council as the focal point in the system-wide follow-up, in particular the review and assessment, of the progress made in implementing the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society, while at the same time maintaining its original mandate on science and technology for development,

Noting the contribution of the Global Alliance for Information and Communication Technologies and Development to the Commission on Science and Technology for Development,

Noting also the twelfth session of the Commission, held in Geneva from 25 to 29 May 2009, and the intersessional meeting of the Commission held in Geneva from 9 to 11 November 2009,

Taking note of Economic and Social Council resolution 2009/7 of 24 July 2009, on the assessment of the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society,

Stressing that, for the majority of the poor, the developmental promise of science and technology, including information and communication technologies, remains unfulfilled, and emphasizing the need to effectively harness technology, including information and communication technologies, to bridge the digital divide,

Recognizing the pivotal role of the United Nations system in promoting development, including with respect to enhancing access to information and communication technologies, inter alia, through partnerships with all relevant stakeholders,

1. *Recognizes* that information and communication technologies have the potential to provide new solutions to development challenges, particularly in the context of globalization, and can foster economic growth, competitiveness, access to information and knowledge, poverty eradication and social inclusion that will help to expedite the integration of all countries, particularly developing countries, into the global economy;

2. *Stresses* the important role of Governments in the design of public policies and in the provision of public services responsive to national needs and priorities through, inter alia, the effective use of information and communication technologies, on the basis of a multi-stakeholder approach, to support national development efforts;

3. *Recognizes* that, in addition to financing by the public sector, financing of information and communication technologies infrastructure by the private sector has come to play an important role in many countries and that domestic financing is being augmented by North-South flows and South-South cooperation;

4. *Also recognizes* that information and communication technologies present new opportunities and challenges, and that there is a pressing need to address the major impediments that developing countries face in accessing the new technologies, such as insufficient resources, infrastructure, education, capacity, investment and connectivity and issues related to technology ownership, standards and flows, and in this regard calls upon all stakeholders to provide adequate resources, enhanced capacity-building and technology transfer, on mutually agreed terms, to developing countries, particularly the least developed countries;

5. *Further recognizes* the immense potential that information and communication technologies have in promoting the transfer of technologies in a wide spectrum of socio-economic activity;

6. *Acknowledges* that a gender divide exists as part of the digital divide, and encourages all stakeholders to ensure the full participation of women in the information society and women's access to the new technologies, especially information and communication technologies for development;

7. *Recalls* the improvements and innovations in financing mechanisms, including the creation of a voluntary Digital Solidarity Fund, as mentioned in the Geneva Declaration of Principles,[33] and in this regard invites voluntary contributions to its financing;

8. *Recognizes* that South-South cooperation, particularly through triangular cooperation, can be a useful tool to promote the development of information and communication technologies;

9. *Encourages* strengthened and continuing cooperation between and among stakeholders to ensure effective implementation of the outcomes of the Geneva[33] and Tunis[35] phases of the World Summit on the Information Society, through, inter alia, the promotion of national, regional and international multi-stakeholder partnerships, including public-private partnerships, and the promotion of national and regional multi-stakeholder thematic platforms, in a joint effort and dialogue with developing and least developed countries, development partners and actors in the information and communication technologies sector;

10. *Welcomes* the efforts undertaken by Tunisia, host of the second phase of the World Summit on the Information Society in collaboration with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the International Telecommunication Union and other relevant international and regional organizations, for organizing annually the ICT 4 All Forum and technological exhibition as a platform within the framework of the follow-up to the Summit to promote a dynamic business environment for the information and communication technologies sector worldwide;

11. *Encourages* the United Nations funds and programmes and the specialized agencies, within their respective mandates, to contribute to the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society, and emphasizes the need for resources in this regard;

12. *Notes* the organization of the World Summit on the Information Society Forum 2009 by the International Telecommunication Union, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to facilitate interaction among actors implementing the Summit's action lines, and invites the organizers to fully engage Governments, international organizations, civil society and the private sector in the preparations for the World Summit on the Information Society Forum 2010, to be held from 10 to 14 May 2010 in Geneva;

13. *Recognizes* the urgent need to harness the potential of knowledge and technology, and in that regard encourages the United Nations development system to continue its effort to promote the use of information and communication technologies as a critical enabler of development and a catalyst for the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;

14. *Also recognizes* the role of the United Nations Group on the Information Society as an inter-agency mechanism of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination designed to coordinate United Nations implementation of the World Summit on the Information Society outcomes;

15. *Invites* the Economic and Social Council to consider the report of the Secretary-General on enhanced cooperation on public policy issues pertaining to the Internet;[39]

16. *Invites* Member States to support the meaningful participation of stakeholders from developing countries in the preparatory meetings of the Internet Governance Forum and in the Forum itself in 2010;

17. *Encourages* Member States, the private sector and all other relevant stakeholders to consider strengthening the secretariat of the Internet Governance Forum in order to support its activities and operations, in accordance with its mandate, including by providing additional funds, where possible, to the Trust Fund in support of the secretariat;

18. *Requests* the Commission on Science and Technology for Development, during its thirteenth session, which will be held at the halfway point to the 2015 overall review, to organize a substantive discussion on the progress made over five years in the implementation of the Summit outcomes, including consideration of the modalities of implementation and follow-up to the Summit, and invites all facilitators and stakeholders to take this into account with regard to their contribution to that session;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session, through the Economic and Social Council, a report on the status of the implementation of and follow-up to the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 64/188

Adopted at the 66th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2009, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/418/Add.1, para. 10),[40] by a recorded vote of 122 to 47, with 8 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Micronesia (Federated States of), Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova,

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[39] E/2009/92.

[40] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by the Sudan (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China).

Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Marshall Islands, Mexico, Norway, Palau, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Serbia, Turkey

64/188. International trade and development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 56/178 of 21 December 2001, 57/235 of 20 December 2002, 58/197 of 23 December 2003, 59/221 of 22 December 2004, 60/184 of 22 December 2005, 61/186 of 20 December 2006, 62/184 of 19 December 2007 and 63/203 of 19 December 2008 on international trade and development,

Recalling also the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[41] as well as the outcomes of the International Conference on Financing for Development,[42] the World Summit on Sustainable Development,[43] the 2005 World Summit Outcome[44] and the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development,[45]

Recalling further the Outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development,[46]

Reaffirming the value of multilateralism to the global trading system and the commitment to achieving a universal, rule-based, open, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system that contributes to growth, sustainable development and employment generation in all sectors, and emphasizing that bilateral and regional trading arrangements should contribute to the goals of the multilateral trading system,

Stressing the importance of open, transparent, inclusive, democratic and more orderly processes and procedures for the effective functioning of the multilateral trading system, including in the decision-making process, so as to enable developing countries to have their vital interests duly reflected in the outcome of trade negotiations,

Reiterating that development concerns form an integral part of the Doha Development Agenda, which places the needs and interests of developing and least developed countries at the heart of the Doha Work Programme,[47]

Noting that agriculture lags behind the manufacturing sector in the process of the establishment of multilateral disciplines and in the reduction of tariff and non-tariff barriers and that, since most of the world's poor make their living from agriculture, the livelihood and standards of living of many of them are seriously jeopardized by the serious distortions in production and trade in agricultural products caused by the high levels of export subsidies, trade-distorting domestic support and protectionism by many developed countries,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Trade and Development Board[48] and the report of the Secretary-General;[49]

2. *Reaffirms* that international trade can be an engine for development and sustained economic growth, underlines the need to fully harness its potential in that regard, and stresses the importance of upholding a universal, rule-based, open, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system that contributes to growth, sustainable development and employment, particularly in developing countries;

3. *Notes with deep concern* that the world financial and economic crisis has severely impacted international trade, particularly affecting developing countries, including through the fall in exports and loss of export revenues, restricted access to trade finance and reduced export-oriented investment, which have resulted, in many cases, in lower fiscal revenues and balance-of-payment problems;

4. *Notes* that the shortage and the high cost of trade finance for developing countries contributed significantly to the reduction in trade flows during the crisis, also notes the efforts of the international community, including through the World Bank Global Trade Liquidity Programme, to ensure additional resources at affordable rates, and calls upon bilateral and multilateral donors to redouble their efforts to increase the availability and affordability of trade finance for developing countries;

5. *Underlines*, in this regard, the need for greater coherence in the trade, financial and monetary systems, with a view to promoting growth, sustainable development and employment;

6. *Stresses* the need to resist all protectionist measures and tendencies, especially those affecting developing countries, particularly tariff, non-tariff and para-tariff barriers to trade, and to rectify any such measures already taken, recognizes the right of countries to fully utilize their policy space, consistent with

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[41] See resolution 55/2.

[42] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[43] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex, and resolution 2, annex.

[44] See resolution 60/1.

[45] Resolution 63/239, annex.

[46] Resolution 63/303, annex.

[47] See A/C.2/56/7, annex.

[48] A/64/15 (Parts I–IV). For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 15*.

[49] A/64/177.

World Trade Organization commitments, and calls upon the World Trade Organization and other relevant bodies, including the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to continue monitoring protectionist measures and assess their impact on developing countries;

7. *Encourages* Member States to refrain from adopting any measures or restrictions related to trade and transit that affect the access by developing countries to medicines, especially generic medicines, and medical equipment;

8. *Expresses serious concern* at the lack of progress in the negotiations of the World Trade Organization Doha Development Round, reiterates the call on developed countries to demonstrate the flexibility and political will necessary to make meaningful progress in the negotiations, with a view to concluding the Round by 2010, and calls upon all members of the World Trade Organization to adhere to the development mandate of the Doha Ministerial Declaration,[47] the decision of 1 August 2004 of the General Council of the World Trade Organization[50] and the Hong Kong Ministerial Declaration,[51] which places development at the heart of the multilateral trading system;

9. *Takes note* of the New Delhi informal ministerial meeting on re-energizing Doha, held on 3 and 4 September 2009, which led to the resumption of the negotiations of the Doha Round with the objective of concluding the Round by 2010;

10. *Stresses* the importance of accelerating the negotiations, with a strong reaffirmation that development remains at the heart of the Doha Round, building upon the progress already made, particularly with regard to modalities, and based on the World Trade Organization agreed workplan on agriculture, non-agricultural market access, services, rules, trade facilitation and other remaining issues, with a view to concluding the Round by 2010;

11. *Also stresses* that, in order for the Doha Round to be concluded satisfactorily, the negotiations should strengthen the rules and disciplines in the area of agriculture, eliminate agricultural export subsidies, substantially reduce the domestic measures of support by developed countries and promote enhanced market access to developed country markets, in a balanced and development-oriented outcome, while adhering to the development mandate of the Doha Ministerial Declaration, the decision of 1 August 2004 of the General Council of the World Trade Organization and the Hong Kong Ministerial Declaration;

12. *Further stresses* the need for negotiations of the World Trade Organization in non-agricultural market access to fulfil the development mandate of the Doha Ministerial Declaration, the decision of 1 August 2004 of the General Council of the World Trade Organization and the Hong Kong Ministerial Declaration;

13. *Stresses* the need for negotiations of the World Trade Organization to make substantial progress in all areas under the single undertaking, such as services, rules and trade facilitation, so as to ensure that the development concerns of developing countries are fully reflected in any outcome, consistent with the development mandate of the Doha Ministerial Declaration, the decision of 1 August 2004 of the General Council of the World Trade Organization and the Hong Kong Ministerial Declaration;

14. *Reiterates its call for* accelerating work on the trade-related aspects of the World Intellectual Property Organization development agenda, as well as the development-related mandate concerning the Agreement on Trade-related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS Agreement)[52] in the Doha Ministerial Declaration, especially the examination of the relationship between the TRIPS Agreement and the Convention on Biological Diversity,[53] the protection of traditional knowledge and folklore and the issues related to the full implementation of the Doha Declaration on the TRIPS Agreement and Public Health,[54] affecting developing countries, including the least developed countries, especially those issues arising from HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and other diseases;

15. *Reaffirms* the commitments made at the Fourth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization[47] and at the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries,[55] in this regard calls upon developed countries that have not already done so to provide immediate predictable, duty-free and quota-free market access on a lasting basis to all products originating from all least developed countries, calls upon developing countries that are in a position to do so to extend duty-free and quota-free market access to exports of these countries, in this context reaffirms also the need to consider additional measures for progressive improvement in market access for least developed countries, and reaffirms further the need for members of the World Trade Organization to take additional measures to provide effective market access, both at the border and otherwise, including simplified and transparent rules of origin so as to facilitate exports from least developed countries;

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[50] World Trade Organization, document WT/L/579. Available from http://docsonline.wto.org.

[51] World Trade Organization, document WT/MIN(05)/DEC. Available from http://docsonline.wto.org.

[52] See *Legal Instruments Embodying the Results of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations, done at Marrakesh on 15 April 1994* (GATT secretariat publication, Sales No. GATT/1994-7).

[53] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

[54] World Trade Organization, document WT/MIN(01)/DEC/2. Available from http://docsonline.wto.org.

[55] See A/CONF.191/13.

16. *Also reaffirms* the commitment to actively pursue the work programme of the World Trade Organization with respect to addressing the trade-related issues and concerns affecting the fuller integration of small, vulnerable economies into the multilateral trading system in a manner commensurate with their special circumstances and in support of their efforts towards sustainable development, in accordance with paragraph 35 of the Doha Ministerial Declaration and paragraph 41 of the Hong Kong Ministerial Declaration;

17. *Expresses its deep concern* at the imposition of laws and other forms of coercive economic measures, including unilateral sanctions, against developing countries, which undermine international law and the rules of the World Trade Organization and also severely threaten freedom of trade and investment;

18. *Recognizes* the special problems and needs of the landlocked developing countries within a new global framework for transit transport cooperation for landlocked and transit developing countries, calls, in this regard, for the full and effective implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action,[56] and stresses the need for the implementation of the São Paulo Consensus[57] and of the Accra Accord[58] by the relevant international organizations and donors in a multi-stakeholder approach;

19. *Reaffirms* that developing countries should play an increasing role in the formulation of, inter alia, safety, environmental and health standards, calls for the full and fair representation of developing countries in the relevant international standard-setting organizations, and in this regard also calls for additional financial resources and technical capacity-building to ensure the adequate participation of developing countries;

20. *Recognizes* that South-South trade should be strengthened, notes that enhanced market access between developing countries can play a positive role in stimulating South-South trade, and calls for acceleration of the work of the ongoing third round of negotiations (the São Paulo Round) on the Global System of Trade Preferences among Developing Countries;

21. *Calls for* facilitating the accession of all developing countries that apply for membership in the World Trade Organization, in particular the least developed countries, including countries emerging from conflict that are least developed countries, bearing in mind paragraph 21 of resolution 55/182 of 20 December 2000 and subsequent developments, and also calls for the effective and faithful application of the World Trade Organization guidelines on accession by the least developed countries;

22. *Emphasizes* the need for further work to foster greater coherence between the multilateral trading system and the international financial system, and invites the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in fulfilment of its mandate, to undertake the relevant policy analysis in those areas and to operationalize such work, including through its technical assistance activities;

23. *Takes note* of the holding of the second Global Review on Aid for Trade, on 6 and 7 July 2009, aimed at reviewing progress achieved and identifying additional measures needed to support developing and least developed countries in building their supply and export capacities, and stresses the urgent need to implement the aid-for-trade commitments, especially with regard to the mobilization of additional, non-conditional and predictable funding;

24. *Welcomes* the efforts made to operationalize the Enhanced Integrated Framework for Trade-related Technical Assistance to Least Developed Countries, aimed at promoting the export and supply capacities of the least developed countries, as well as the establishment of the Enhanced Integrated Framework Trust Fund, and urges development partners to increase their contributions, with a view to ensuring increased additional, non-conditional and predictable financial resources on a multi-year basis;

25. *Reiterates* the important role of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development as the focal point within the United Nations system for the integrated treatment of trade and development and interrelated issues in the areas of finance, technology, investment and sustainable development, and calls upon the international community to work towards the strengthening of the Conference in order to enable it to enhance its contribution in its three major pillars, namely, consensus-building, research and policy analysis and technical assistance, especially through increased core resources;

26. *Invites* the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in accordance with its mandate, to monitor and assess the evolution of the international trading system and of trends in international trade from a development perspective, and, in particular, to analyse issues of concern to developing countries, supporting them in building capacities to establish their own negotiating priorities and negotiate trade agreements, including under the Doha Work Programme;

27. *Urges* donors to provide the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development with the increased resources necessary to deliver effective and demand-driven assistance to developing countries, as well as to enhance their contributions to the trust funds of the Integrated Framework for Trade-related Technical Assistance to Least Developed Countries and the Joint Integrated Technical Assistance Programme;

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[56] *Report of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation, Almaty, Kazakhstan, 28 and 29 August 2003* (A/CONF.202/3), annex I.

[57] TD/412, chap. II.

[58] TD/442 and Corr.1, chap. II.

28. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in collaboration with the secretariat of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution and on developments in the multilateral trading system, including with regard to the implementation of the World Intellectual Property Organization development agenda, under the sub-item entitled "International trade and development" of the item entitled "Macroeconomic policy questions";

29. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to transmit the present resolution to the Director-General of the World Trade Organization for circulation as a document of the World Trade Organization.

RESOLUTION 64/189

Adopted at the 66th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2009, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/418/Add.1, para. 10),[59] by a recorded vote of 124 to 3, with 51 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel, Uganda, United States of America

Abstaining: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

64/189. Unilateral economic measures as a means of political and economic coercion against developing countries

The General Assembly,

Recalling the relevant principles set forth in the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,[60] which states, inter alia, that no State may use or encourage the use of unilateral economic, political or any other type of measures to coerce another State in order to obtain from it the subordination of the exercise of its sovereign rights,

Bearing in mind the general principles governing the international trading system and trade policies for development contained in relevant resolutions, rules and provisions of the United Nations and the World Trade Organization,

Recalling its resolutions 44/215 of 22 December 1989, 46/210 of 20 December 1991, 48/168 of 21 December 1993, 50/96 of 20 December 1995, 52/181 of 18 December 1997, 54/200 of 22 December 1999, 56/179 of 21 December 2001, 58/198 of 23 December 2003, 60/185 of 22 December 2005 and 62/183 of 19 December 2007,

Gravely concerned that the use of unilateral coercive economic measures adversely affects the economy and development efforts of developing countries in particular and has a general negative impact on international economic cooperation and on worldwide efforts to move towards a non-discriminatory and open multilateral trading system,

Recognizing that such measures constitute a flagrant violation of the principles of international law as set forth in the Charter, as well as the basic principles of the multilateral trading system,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[61]

2. *Urges* the international community to adopt urgent and effective measures to eliminate the use of unilateral coercive economic measures against developing countries that are not authorized by relevant organs of the United Nations or are inconsistent with the principles of international law as set forth in the Charter of the United Nations and that contravene the basic principles of the multilateral trading system;

3. *Calls upon* the international community to condemn and reject the imposition of the use of such measures as a means of political and economic coercion against developing countries;

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[59] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by the Sudan (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China).

[60] Resolution 2625 (XXV), annex.

[61] A/64/179.

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to monitor the imposition of measures of this nature and to study the impact of such measures on the affected countries, including the impact on trade and development;

5. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 64/190

Adopted at the 66th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/418/Add.2, para. 8)[62]

64/190. International financial system and development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 55/186 of 20 December 2000 and 56/181 of 21 December 2001, both entitled "Towards a strengthened and stable international financial architecture responsive to the priorities of growth and development, especially in developing countries, and to the promotion of economic and social equity", as well as its resolutions 57/241 of 20 December 2002, 58/202 of 23 December 2003, 59/222 of 22 December 2004, 60/186 of 22 December 2005, 61/187 of 20 December 2006, 62/185 of 19 December 2007 and 63/205 of 19 December 2008,

Recalling also the United Nations Millennium Declaration[63] and its resolution 56/210 B of 9 July 2002, in which it endorsed the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,[64] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),[65]

Recalling further the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[66]

Recalling its resolution 60/265 of 30 June 2006 on the follow-up to the development outcome of the 2005 World Summit, including the Millennium Development Goals and the other internationally agreed development goals, and its resolution 61/16 of 20 November 2006 on strengthening of the Economic and Social Council,

Recalling also the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development: outcome document of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus, held in Doha from 29 November to 2 December 2008,[67]

Recalling further the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development and its outcome,[68]

Expressing deep concern over the adverse impact of the current world financial and economic crisis on development, which not only highlighted long-standing systemic fragilities and imbalances, but has also led to an intensification of efforts to reform and strengthen the international financial system and architecture,

Recognizing the substantive discussions held and the efforts made at the national, regional and international levels in response to the world financial and economic crisis,

Taking note of the decisions taken at the 2009 annual meetings of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, held in Istanbul, Turkey, on 6 and 7 October 2009

Reaffirming the purposes of the United Nations, as set forth in the Charter, including to achieve international cooperation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural or humanitarian character and to be a centre for harmonizing the actions of nations in the attainment of common ends, and reiterating the need to strengthen the leadership role of the United Nations in promoting development,

Recalling the commitment to work in solidarity on a coordinated and comprehensive global response to the crisis and its impact on development and to undertake actions aimed at strengthening the role of the United Nations development system in responding to the crisis and its impact on development,

Stressing the importance of commitment to ensuring sound domestic financial sectors, which make a vital contribution to national development efforts, as an important component of an international financial architecture that is supportive of development,

Recognizing the continued importance of good governance along with national ownership of policies and strategies, and recalling the commitment to promoting effective and efficient economic and financial institutions at all levels, which are key determinants of long-term economic growth and development, as well as to accelerating the collective recovery from the crisis through improved transparency, eradication of corruption and strengthened governance,

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[62] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee.

[63] See resolution 55/2.

[64] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[65] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[66] See resolution 60/1.

[67] Resolution 63/239, annex.

[68] Resolution 63/303, annex.

Stressing that good governance at the international level is fundamental for achieving sustainable development, reiterating in this regard the importance of promoting global economic governance by addressing the international finance, trade, technology and investment patterns that have an impact on the development prospects of developing countries in order to ensure a dynamic and enabling international economic environment, and reiterating also that, to this effect, the international community should take all necessary and appropriate measures, including ensuring support for structural and macroeconomic reform, finding a comprehensive solution to the external debt problem and increasing the market access of developing countries,

Recognizing the urgent need to enhance the coherence, governance and consistency of the international monetary, financial and trading systems and the importance of ensuring their openness, fairness and inclusiveness in order to complement national development efforts to ensure sustained economic growth and the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[69]

2. *Reaffirms* that the United Nations, on the basis of its universal membership and legitimacy, is well positioned to participate in various reform processes aimed at improving and strengthening the effective functioning of the international financial system and architecture, while recognizing that the United Nations and the international financial institutions have complementary mandates which make the coordination of their actions crucial;

3. *Recalls*, in this regard, the resolve to strengthen the coordination of the United Nations system and all other multilateral financial, trade and development institutions so as to support economic growth, poverty eradication and sustainable development worldwide, based on a clear understanding of and respect for their mandates and governance structures;

4. *Underlines* the importance of the implementation of the Outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development,[68] and in this regard recalls the establishment of the ad hoc open-ended working group of the General Assembly to follow up on the issues considered therein;

5. *Notes* that the crisis has produced or exacerbated serious and wide-ranging yet differentiated impacts across the globe and that, since the crisis began, many States have reported negative impacts, which vary by country, region, level of development and severity, including massive reversal of private capital inflows, especially at the height of the crisis;

6. *Expresses serious concern* at the impact that the current world economic and financial crisis is having on all countries, particularly developing countries, stresses the need for actions that are commensurate with the scale, depth and urgency of the crisis to be taken, adequately financed, promptly implemented and appropriately coordinated internationally, and in this regard notes the significant work under way at the national, regional and international levels to mitigate the impact of the crisis;

7. *Reaffirms* the need to further develop the comprehensive response of the United Nations development system to the world financial and economic crisis in support of national development strategies through a coordinated approach by United Nations funds and programmes, the specialized agencies and the international financial institutions at the country level;

8. *Notes* that global economic growth and a stable international financial system, inter alia, can support the ability of developing countries to pursue their national policy objectives and achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and stresses the importance of cooperative and coordinated efforts by all countries and institutions to cope with the risks of financial instability;

9. *Stresses* that this crisis has added new impetus to ongoing international discussions on the reform of the international financial system and architecture, including on issues related to mandate, scope, governance, responsiveness and development orientation, as appropriate;

10. *Notes* that major failures of regulation and supervision, plus irresponsible risk-taking by banks and other financial institutions, had created dangerous financial fragilities which contributed significantly to the current crisis, and stresses the need for greater transparency and better regulation and supervision of the international financial system by, inter alia, strengthening prudential oversight, improving risk management and reinforcing international cooperation, while noting ongoing reforms in this regard;

11. *Emphasizes* the need for global concerted efforts to restore global economic growth, particularly in developing countries, also emphasizes, in this regard, the need to take into account the human and social impact of the crisis, and underlines the need to promote a job-intensive recovery from the crisis, drawing on the decent work agenda and through the implementation of the resolution entitled "Recovering from the crisis: a Global Jobs Pact", adopted by the International Labour Conference at its ninety-eighth session;

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[69] A/64/178.

12. *Stresses* that developing countries facing an acute and severe shortage of foreign reserves because of the fallout of the crisis can use, as a measure of last resort, temporary capital account measures, in accordance with the relevant bilateral and multilateral agreements, in order to help to mitigate the adverse impacts of the crisis;

13. *Notes* that developing countries can seek to negotiate, as a last resort, on a case-by-case basis and through existing frameworks, agreements on temporary debt standstills between debtors and creditors in order to help to mitigate the adverse impacts of the crisis and stabilize macroeconomic developments;

14. *Recalls* that countries must have the necessary flexibility to implement counter-cyclical measures and to pursue tailored and targeted responses to the crisis, and calls for a streamlining of conditionalities to ensure that they are timely, tailored and targeted and support developing countries in the face of financial, economic and development challenges;

15. *Notes*, in this regard, the recent improvement of the lending framework of the International Monetary Fund through, inter alia, streamlined conditions and the creation of more flexible instruments such as a flexible credit line, while also noting that new and ongoing programmes should not contain unwarranted pro-cyclical conditionalities;

16. *Urges* international financial institutions to continue their efforts to mitigate the global economic impacts of the current crisis, including through the provision of financial resources to developing countries, stresses the need to assist developing countries in responding to the crisis without incurring the risk of relapsing into another debt crisis, takes note with appreciation in this regard of the additional resources that have been made available through the International Monetary Fund and the multilateral development banks, and calls for the continued provision of concessional and grant-based financing to low-income countries to enable them to respond to the crisis;

17. *Notes* recent progress on reform of the governance structures of the international financial institutions, and reaffirms the commitment to broaden and strengthen the participation of developing countries and countries with economies in transition in international economic decision-making and norm-setting, while stressing the importance to that end of continuing efforts to reform the international financial architecture, and acknowledges the need for continued discussion on the issue of the voting power of developing countries in the Bretton Woods institutions, which remains a concern;

18. *Reaffirms* the need to address the often expressed concern regarding the extent of representation of developing countries in the major standard-setting bodies, therefore welcomes, as a step in the right direction, the expansion of the membership in the Financial Stability Board and the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision, and encourages the major standard-setting bodies to further review their membership promptly while enhancing their effectiveness, with a view to expanding the representation of developing countries as appropriate;

19. *Notes* the important role played by recent allocations of special drawing rights in increasing global liquidity, recognizes the need to continue regular reviews of the role of special drawing rights, including with reference to their potential role in the international reserve system, and requests the Secretary-General to take this into account while preparing his report on the implementation of the present resolution;

20. *Also notes* the value of regional and subregional cooperation efforts in meeting the challenges of the global economic crisis, and encourages enhanced regional and subregional cooperation, for example, through regional and subregional development banks, commercial and reserve currency arrangements, and other regional initiatives, as contributions to the multilateral response to the current crisis and to improved resilience with respect to potential future crises;

21. *Invites* the international financial and banking institutions to enhance the transparency of risk-rating mechanisms, noting that sovereign risk assessments made by the private sector should maximize the use of strict, objective and transparent parameters, which can be facilitated by high-quality data and analysis, and encourages relevant development institutions, including the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to continue their work on this issue, including its potential impact on the development prospects of developing countries;

22. *Invites* the multilateral and regional development banks and development funds to play a vital role in serving the development needs of developing countries and countries with economies in transition, including through coordinated action, as appropriate, and stresses that regional development banks and financial institutions add flexible financial support to national and regional development efforts, thus enhancing their ownership and overall efficiency, and in this regard calls upon the international community to ensure that multilateral and regional development banks are adequately funded;

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

24. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session, under the item entitled "Macroeconomic policy questions", the sub-item entitled "International financial system and development".

RESOLUTION 64/191

Adopted at the 66th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/418/Add.3, para. 8)[70]

64/191. External debt sustainability and development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 58/203 of 23 December 2003, 59/223 of 22 December 2004, 60/187 of 22 December 2005, 61/188 of 20 December 2006, 62/186 of 19 December 2007 and 63/206 of 19 December 2008,

Recalling also the 2009 Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development and its outcome,[71]

Recalling further the International Conference on Financing for Development and its outcome,[72] and the 2008 Doha Declaration on Financing for Development,[73]

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration, adopted on 8 September 2000,[74]

Recalling also the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[75]

Recalling further its resolution 60/265 of 30 June 2006 on the follow-up to the development outcome of the 2005 World Summit, including the Millennium Development Goals and the other internationally agreed development goals,

Recalling its resolution 57/270 B of 23 June 2003,

Recognizing the important role, on a case-by-case basis, of debt relief and debt restructuring as debt crisis prevention and management tools for mitigating the impact of the world financial and economic crisis in developing countries,

Expressing concern that some low-income countries may face increased challenges in servicing their debt,

Reaffirming that each country must take primary responsibility for its own development and that the role of national policies and development strategies, including in the area of debt management, cannot be overemphasized in the achievement of sustainable development, and recognizing that national efforts should be complemented by supportive global programmes, measures and policies aimed at expanding the development opportunities of developing countries, while taking into account national conditions and ensuring respect for national ownership, strategies and sovereignty,

Reaffirming also that the Bretton Woods institutions and other relevant organizations should continue to play an important role, given their respective mandates, in achieving and maintaining debt sustainability,

Noting, in this regard, the recent improvement of the lending framework of the International Monetary Fund, through, inter alia, streamlined conditions and the creation of more flexible instruments such as a flexible credit line, while noting also that new and ongoing programmes should not contain unwarranted procyclical conditionalities,

Emphasizing that debt sustainability is essential for underpinning growth, and underlining the importance of debt sustainability and effective debt management to the efforts to achieve national development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Noting with appreciation that the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative and the Multilateral Debt Relief Initiative and bilateral donors have provided significant debt relief to twenty-six heavily indebted poor countries that have reached the completion point under the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative, and that an additional nine countries have reached the decision point under the Initiative, and expressing concern that five out of forty eligible heavily indebted poor countries have still not reached the decision point under the Initiative,

Noting that the world has been facing and confronting, in the world financial and economic crisis, the greatest economic challenge of recent times, and recognizing the international response to this crisis, which is helping to stabilize financial markets,

Recognizing that the negative impact of the world financial and economic crisis on development is still unfolding and entails the possibility of undoing the progress made towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals, and that it may threaten debt sustainability in some developing countries, inter alia, through its impact on the real economy and the increase in borrowing undertaken in order to mitigate the negative impacts of the crisis,

Welcoming the fact that the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative and the Multilateral Debt Relief Initiative have enabled heavily indebted poor countries to increase their investments in health, education and other social services consistent with national priorities, development plans and the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Stressing the importance of addressing the challenges of the fourteen heavily indebted poor countries that are facing difficulties in reaching the decision or completion point under the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative, and expressing concern that some heavily indebted poor countries continue to face substantial debt burdens and need to avoid rebuilding unsustainable debt burdens after reaching the completion point under the Initiative,

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[70] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee.

[71] Resolution 63/303, annex.

[72] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[73] Resolution 63/239, annex.

[74] See resolution 55/2.

[75] See resolution 60/1.

Acknowledging that, although the debt relief provided under the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative and the Multilateral Debt Relief Initiative has considerably reduced the debt vulnerabilities in post-completion point countries and that the vulnerabilities in those countries are on average much lower than in pre-completion point heavily indebted poor countries, some post-completion point countries remain classified as being at high risk of debt distress,

Convinced that enhanced market access for goods and services of export interest to developing countries contributes significantly to debt sustainability in those countries,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Towards a durable solution to the debt problems of developing countries";[76]

2. *Emphasizes* the special importance of a timely, effective, comprehensive and durable solution to the debt problems of developing countries, since debt financing and relief can contribute to economic growth and development;

3. *Stresses* the importance of responsible lending and borrowing, and emphasizes that creditors and debtors must share responsibility for preventing unsustainable debt situations;

4. *Reiterates* that debt sustainability depends on a confluence of many factors at the international and national levels, emphasizes that country-specific circumstances and the impact of external shocks should continue to be taken into account in debt sustainability analyses, underscores the fact that no single indicator should be used to make definitive judgements about debt sustainability, and, in this regard, while acknowledging the need to use transparent and comparable indicators, invites the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, in their assessment of debt sustainability, to take into account fundamental changes caused by, inter alia, natural disasters, conflicts and changes in global growth prospects or in the terms of trade, especially for commodity-dependent developing countries, as well as by the impact of developments in financial markets, and to continue to provide information on this issue using existing cooperation forums, including those involving Member States;

5. *Underlines* the fact that the long-term sustainability of debt depends, inter alia, on the economic growth, mobilization of domestic resources and export prospects of debtor countries and hence on the creation of an enabling international environment conducive to development, progress in following sound macroeconomic policies, transparent and effective regulatory frameworks and success in overcoming structural development problems;

6. *Recognizes* the enormity and the multidimensional nature of the world financial and economic crisis and the significant risks it may pose to the debt sustainability of some developing countries and countries with economies in transition, and emphasizes the need for coordinated policies aimed at fostering debt financing, debt relief and debt restructuring, as appropriate;

7. *Stresses* the need to assist developing countries in responding to the crisis without incurring the risk of relapsing into another debt crisis, takes note with appreciation, in this regard, of the additional resources that have been made available through the International Monetary Fund and the multilateral development banks, and calls for the continued provision of concessional and grant-based financing to low-income countries to enable them to respond to the crisis;

8. *Notes* the provision by the International Monetary Fund of interest relief to low-income countries in the form of zero-interest payments on financing from concessional lending facilities until the end of 2011;

9. *Also notes* that developing countries can seek to negotiate, as a last resort, on a case-by-case basis and through existing frameworks, agreements on temporary debt standstills between debtors and creditors in order to help mitigate the adverse impacts of the crisis and stabilize macroeconomic developments;

10. *Stresses* the importance of assisting developing countries, upon request, in managing their borrowing and in avoiding a build-up of unsustainable debt, including through capacity-building in the area of debt management and the use of grants and concessional loans, and underlines the important role of the joint Debt Sustainability Framework of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank for low-income countries in helping to guide borrowing and lending decisions;

11. *Takes note* of the recent review of the flexibility of the Debt Sustainability Framework, urges all lenders and borrowers to make full use of debt sustainability analyses in their debt decisions in order to help maintain debt sustainability through a coordinated and cooperative approach, and encourages continued review of the Framework, with the full engagement of borrower Governments, in an open and transparent manner;

12. *Recognizes and encourages* the continued provision of assistance, including technical assistance, to enhance debt management, negotiation and renegotiation capacities, including supporting legal advice in relation to tackling external debt litigation and debt data reconciliation between creditors and debtors, in order that debt sustainability may be achieved and maintained;

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[76] A/64/167.

13. *Takes note* of the progress made under the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative and the Multilateral Debt Relief Initiative, while expressing concern that some countries have yet to reach decision or completion points, calls for their full and timely implementation and for continued support to the remaining eligible countries in completing the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative process, and encourages all parties, both creditors and debtors, to fulfil their commitments as rapidly as possible in order to complete the debt relief process;

14. *Notes* that some low- and middle-income developing countries that are not included in existing debt relief initiatives also experience constraints on mobilizing the resources needed to achieve the internationally agreed development goals;

15. *Underlines* the fact that heavily indebted poor countries eligible for debt relief will not be able to enjoy its full benefits unless all creditors, including public and private, contribute their fair share and become involved in the international debt resolution mechanisms to ensure the debt sustainability of low-income countries;

16. *Encourages* donor countries to take steps to ensure that resources provided for debt relief under the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative and the Multilateral Debt Relief Initiative do not detract from official development assistance resources intended to be available for developing countries;

17. *Encourages* further improvement of the mutual exchange of information, on a voluntary basis, on borrowing and lending among all creditors and borrowers;

18. *Takes note* of the creation of the new International Monetary Fund lending facilities in response to the crisis and the continued review of the new lending facilities, and urges the multilateral development banks to move forward on flexible, concessional, fast-disbursing and front-loaded assistance that will substantially and quickly assist developing countries facing financing gaps in their efforts to achieve the Millennium Development Goals, bearing in mind that new lending facilities will have to consider those countries' individual absorptive capacities and debt sustainability;

19. *Welcomes and encourages* the efforts of the heavily indebted poor countries, calls upon them to continue to strengthen their domestic policies and economic management, inter alia, through poverty reduction strategies, and to create a domestic environment conducive to private-sector development, economic growth and poverty reduction, including a stable macroeconomic framework, transparent and accountable systems of public finance, a sound business climate and a predictable investment climate, and in this regard invites creditors, both private and public, that are not yet fully participating in debt relief initiatives to substantially increase their participation, including by providing comparable treatment to the extent possible to debtor countries that have concluded sustainable debt relief agreements with creditors, and invites the international financing institutions and the donor community to continue to provide adequate and sufficiently concessional financing;

20. *Stresses* that debt relief can play a key role in liberating resources that should be directed towards activities consistent with poverty eradication, sustained economic growth, economic development and the internationally agreed development goals including, the Millennium Development Goals, and in this regard urges countries to direct those resources freed through debt relief, in particular through debt cancellation and reduction, towards those objectives;

21. *Calls for* the consideration of additional measures and initiatives aimed at ensuring long-term debt sustainability through increased grant-based and other forms of concessionary financing, cancellation of 100 per cent of the eligible official multilateral and bilateral debt of heavily indebted poor countries and, where appropriate, and on a case-by-case basis, significant debt relief or restructuring for developing countries with an unsustainable debt burden that are not part of the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative;

22. *Encourages* the Paris Club, in dealing with the debt of low- and middle-income debtor countries that are not part of the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative, to take into account their medium-term debt sustainability in addition to their financing gaps, and takes note with appreciation of the Evian approach of the Paris Club in providing terms of debt relief tailored to the specific needs of debtor countries while preserving debt cancellation for heavily indebted poor countries;

23. *Stresses* the need to significantly address the debt problems of middle-income developing countries, and in this regard stresses the importance of the Evian approach of the Paris Club as a practical means of addressing this issue, and notes that the current debt sustainability framework used to analyse the debt situation of middle-income countries focuses mostly on medium-term debt dynamics;

24. *Notes* the changing composition of the sovereign debt of some countries, which has shifted increasingly from external public debt to domestic debt, notes that the levels of domestic debt could create other challenges for macroeconomic management and public debt sustainability, and calls for reinforcing the capacity to manage the new levels of domestic debt in order to maintain overall public debt sustainability;

25. *Recognizes* that a shift has occurred from official to commercial borrowing and from external to domestic public debt, although for most low-income countries external finance

is still largely official, notes that the number of creditors, both official and private, has increased significantly, and stresses the need to address the implications of these changes, including through improved data collection and analysis;

26. *Calls for* the intensification of efforts to prevent debt crises by enhancing international financial mechanisms for crisis prevention and resolution, in cooperation with the private sector, and by finding solutions that are transparent and agreeable to all;

27. *Recognizes* the roles of the United Nations and the international financial institutions in accordance with their respective mandates, and encourages them to continue to support global efforts towards sustainable development and a durable solution to the debt problem of developing countries;

28. *Invites* creditors and debtors to further explore, where appropriate, and on a mutually agreed and case-by-case basis, the use of innovative mechanisms such as debt swaps, including debt for equity in Millennium Development Goals projects;

29. *Stresses* the need to continue to take effective measures, preferably within the existing frameworks, to address the debt problems of the least developed countries, including through cancellation of the multilateral and bilateral debt owed by least developed countries to creditors, both public and private;

30. *Invites* donor countries, taking into account country-specific debt sustainability analyses, to continue their efforts to increase bilateral grants to developing countries, which could contribute to debt sustainability in the medium to long term, and recognizes the need for countries to be able to invest, inter alia, in health and education while maintaining debt sustainability;

31. *Stresses* the need to increase information-sharing, transparency and the use of objective criteria in the construction and evaluation of debt scenarios, including an assessment of domestic public and private debt, in order to ensure the achievement of development goals, recognizes that credit rating agencies also play a significant role in the provision of information, including assessment of corporate and sovereign risks, and in this regard calls for strong oversight over credit rating agencies consistent with the agreed and strengthened international code of conduct;

32. *Calls for* the consideration of enhanced approaches to sovereign debt restructuring mechanisms based on existing frameworks and principles, with the broad participation of creditors and debtors, the comparable treatment of all creditors and an important role for the Bretton Woods institutions, and in this regard, welcomes and calls upon all countries to contribute to the ongoing discussions in the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank and other forums on the need for, and feasibility of, a more structured framework for international cooperation in this area;

33. *Welcomes* the efforts of and calls upon the international community to provide flexibility, and stresses the need to continue those efforts in helping post-conflict developing countries, especially those that are heavily indebted and poor, to achieve initial reconstruction for economic and social development;

34. *Also welcomes* the efforts of and invites creditors to provide flexibility to developing countries affected by natural disasters so as to allow them to address their debt concerns, while taking into account their specific situation and needs;

35. *Further welcomes* the efforts of and calls upon the international community to support institutional capacity-building in developing countries for the management of financial assets and liabilities and to enhance sustainable debt management as an integral part of national development strategies;

36. *Invites* the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, in cooperation with the regional commissions, development banks and other relevant multilateral financial institutions and stakeholders, to continue and intensify cooperation in respect of capacity-building activities in developing countries in the area of debt management and debt sustainability;

37. *Invites* the international community, including the United Nations system, to continue efforts to increase financial support in respect of capacity-building activities for developing countries in the area of debt management and debt sustainability, and encourages countries that have not done so to create transparent and accountable debt management systems;

38. *Calls upon* all Member States and the United Nations system, and invites the Bretton Woods institutions and the private sector, to take appropriate measures and actions for the implementation of the commitments, agreements and decisions of the major United Nations conferences and summits, in particular those related to the question of the external debt problems of developing countries;

39. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution and to include in that report a comprehensive and substantive analysis of the external debt situation of developing countries;

40. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session, under the item entitled "Macroeconomic policy questions", a sub-item entitled "External debt sustainability and development".

RESOLUTION 64/192

Adopted at the 66th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/418/Add.4, para. 7)[77]

64/192. Commodities

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 59/224 of 22 December 2004, 61/190 of 20 December 2006 and 63/207 of 19 December 2008 on commodities,

Recalling also the United Nations Millennium Declaration adopted by Heads of State and Government on 8 September 2000,[78] the 2005 World Summit Outcome adopted on 16 September 2005[79] and its resolution 60/265 of 30 June 2006 on the follow-up to the development outcome of the 2005 World Summit, including the Millennium Development Goals and the other internationally agreed development goals,

Recalling further the International Conference on Financing for Development and its outcome,[80]

Recalling the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),[81]

Recalling also the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001–2010[82] and the outcome of the high-level meeting of the sixty-first session of the General Assembly on the midterm comprehensive global review of the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001–2010, held in New York on 18 and 19 September 2006,[83] and taking note of *The Least Developed Countries Report, 2009: The State and Development Governance*,[84]

Taking note of the Arusha Declaration and Plan of Action on African Commodities adopted at the African Union Conference of Ministers of Trade on Commodities, held in Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania, from 21 to 23 November 2005,[85] and endorsed by the Executive Council of the African Union at its eighth ordinary session, held in Khartoum from 16 to 21 January 2006,[86]

Taking note also of the targets set out in the Rome Declaration on World Food Security and the World Food Summit Plan of Action[87] and the Declaration of the World Food Summit: five years later,[88] which reaffirms the pledge to end hunger and poverty,

Welcoming the World Summit on Food Security, held in Rome from 16 to 18 November 2009, and its decision to create a Global Partnership for Agriculture, Food Security and Nutrition,[89] the High-level Conference on World Food Security: the Challenges of Climate Change and Bioenergy, held in Rome from 3 to 5 June 2008, and the Summits of the Group of Eight held in Hokkaido, Japan, from 7 to 9 July 2008 and in L'Aquila, Italy, from 8 to 10 July 2009,

Taking note of the outcome document of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus, held in Doha from 29 November to 2 December 2008,[90]

Taking note also of the Political Declaration of the High-level Meeting on Africa's Development Needs, held in New York on 22 September 2008,[91]

Taking note further of the Accra Accord, adopted by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development at its twelfth session,[92] containing far-reaching recommendations on commodity issues, and of further decisions and agreed conclusions on commodities adopted by the Trade and Development Board and its subsidiary bodies in 2008 and 2009,

Recognizing that many developing countries continue to be highly dependent on primary commodities as their principal source of export revenues, employment, income generation and domestic savings, and as the driving force of investment, economic growth and social development, including poverty eradication,

Deeply concerned by recent episodes of commodity price booms and subsequent busts and by the fact that many commodity-dependent developing countries and economies in transition continue to be highly vulnerable to price fluctuations, and recognizing the need to improve the regulation, functioning, and transparency of financial and commodity markets in order to address excessive commodity price volatility,

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[77] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee.

[78] See resolution 55/2.

[79] See resolution 60/1.

[80] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[81] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[82] A/CONF.191/13, chap. II.

[83] See resolution 61/1.

[84] United Nations publication, Sales No. E.09.II.D.9.

[85] African Union, document AU/Min/Com/Decl.Rev.1.

[86] See A/60/693, annex II, decision EX.CL/Dec.253 (VIII).

[87] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, *Report of the World Food Summit, 13–17 November 1996* (WFS 96/REP), part one, appendix.

[88] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, *Report of the World Food Summit: five years later, 10–13 June 2002*, part one, appendix; see also A/57/499, annex.

[89] See Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, *Declaration of the World Summit on Food Security* (WSFS 2009/2).

[90] Resolution 63/239, annex.

[91] See resolution 63/1.

[92] TD/442 and Corr.1, chap. II.

Recognizing that the present crisis has reinforced the need to comprehensively deal with the commodity problematique, while taking due account of the diversity of each country's individual situation and needs and the promotion of their sustainable development, and to strengthen the nexus between trade, food, finance, investment in sustainable agriculture, energy and industrialization,

Taking note of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development *World Investment Report, 2009: Transnational Corporations, Agricultural Production and Development*,[93]

Taking note also of the initiative on promoting responsible international investment in agriculture, which aims to develop relevant principles and an international framework,

Recognizing that the current economic crisis has impacted negatively on the commodity economy, as evidenced, inter alia, by the decline in demand for commodities, diminishing supply capacities owing to shrinking commodity revenues and postponement of investments, resulting in an economic slowdown in commodity-dependent economies,

Noting that the report on world commodity trends and prospects prepared by the secretariat of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development shows that the recent sharp drop in commodity prices has been followed by a partial recovery in prices during the first months of 2009,

Stressing the importance of policies to address longer-term structural issues of the commodity economy and integrate commodity policies into wider development and poverty eradication strategies at all levels,

Taking note of all relevant voluntary initiatives aimed at improving transparency in commodity markets,

1. *Takes note* of the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report on world commodity trends and prospects prepared by the secretariat of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development;[94]

2. *Underscores* the need for further efforts to address excessive commodity price volatility, in particular by assisting producers, especially small-scale producers, in managing risk;

3. *Emphasizes* the need for efforts by the developing countries that are heavily dependent on primary commodities to continue to promote a domestic policy and an institutional environment that encourage diversification and liberalization of the trade and export sectors and enhance competitiveness;

4. *Reaffirms* that each country has primary responsibility for its own economic and social development, and recognizes the importance of an effective enabling environment at the national and international levels;

5. *Calls for* a coherent set of policy actions at national, regional and international levels to address excessive price volatility and support commodity-dependent developing countries in mitigating negative impacts, in particular by facilitating value addition and enhancing their participation in commodity and related product value chains, by supporting large-scale diversification of these economies and by encouraging the use and further development of market-oriented risk management tools;

6. *Recognizes* the potential for innovation, productivity improvements and promotion of non-traditional exports in most commodity-dependent developing countries, particularly in Africa, and calls for enhanced support by the international community as well as exchanges of experience in these areas within the framework of South-South economic cooperation;

7. *Calls upon* the international community to work closely with commodity-dependent economies to identify trade-related policies and instruments as well as investment and financial policies as key elements of the development strategies of those economies;

8. *Underscores* the importance of increased investments in infrastructure as a means of promoting agricultural development and enhancing commodity diversification and trade, and urges the international community to assist commodity-dependent developing countries;

9. *Expresses concern* over the large-scale land acquisitions by, among others, transnational corporations in developing countries that incur risk to development efforts, stresses the importance of promoting responsible international investment in agriculture, and in this regard invites the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in cooperation with other relevant international organizations, to continue its research and analysis on this issue;

10. *Stresses* that technical assistance and capacity-building aimed at improving the commodity export competitiveness of producers is particularly important, especially in Africa, and invites the donor community to provide necessary resources for commodity-specific, financial and technical assistance, in particular for human and institutional capacity-building, as well as infrastructure development of developing countries, with a view to reducing their institutional bottlenecks and transaction costs and enhancing their commodity trade and development in accordance with national development plans;

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[93] United Nations publication, Sales No. E.09.II.D.15.

[94] A/64/184.

11. *Also stresses* that the Aid for Trade Initiative should aim to help developing countries, particularly least developed countries, to build the supply-side capacity and trade-related infrastructure that they need to assist them to implement and benefit from World Trade Organization agreements and, more broadly, to expand their trade;

12. *Calls upon* the international community to take urgent measures for food security, including immediate and adequate provision of food grain in developing countries suffering from shortages, in particular least developed countries, while supporting the efforts of those countries to achieve longer-term food security and sustainable agricultural development, and notes, furthermore, that food aid should be provided in a manner that does not disrupt domestic markets and food production;

13. *Underlines* the important contribution of the commodities sector to rural development, in particular to providing rural employment and income, and to the efforts for achieving food security;

14. *Emphasizes* the importance of international measures and national strategies to improve the performance of the agricultural sector, including the functioning of markets and trading systems, to ensure a better supply-side response from producers, in particular, small farmers, in order to incentivize them to take the risks inherent in investing in increased and diversified production;

15. *Stresses* the importance of finding tools to best manage excessive price volatility, and requests the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to carry out a study with a view to making specific recommendations on measures which could achieve more stability in commodity markets;

16. *Calls for* the conclusion of the Doha Development Round of trade negotiations of the World Trade Organization in 2010 with an ambitious, balanced and development-oriented outcome;

17. *Reaffirms its commitment* to meaningful trade liberalization and to ensure that trade plays its full part in promoting economic growth, employment and development for all;

18. *Emphasizes* that maximizing the benefits and minimizing the costs of international trade liberalization call for development-oriented and coherent policies at all levels;

19. *Recalls* the agreement to keep under regular review, by the Ministerial Conference and appropriate organs of the World Trade Organization, the impact of the results of the Uruguay Round on the least developed countries as well as on the net food-importing developing countries, with a view to fostering positive measures to enable them to achieve their development objectives, and in this regard calls for the implementation of the Marrakech Decision on Measures Concerning the Possible Negative Effects of the Reform Programme on Least Developed and Net Food-Importing Developing Countries;[95]

20. *Welcomes* the actions taken by some individual countries since the International Conference on Financing for Development in Monterrey, Mexico,[80] towards the goal of full duty-free and quota-free market access for all least developed countries, and calls upon other developed and developing countries, declaring themselves in a position to do so, to take steps towards this objective;

21. *Calls upon* international financial institutions and development banks to assist commodity-dependent developing countries in managing the effects of price volatility, and in this regard invites those countries to continue to implement effective economic and fiscal measures;

22. *Reaffirms* that every State has and shall freely exercise full permanent sovereignty over all its wealth, natural resources and economic activities;

23. *Recognizes* the importance of increasing efficiency and effectiveness in the management of public and private sectors revenues in developed and developing countries derived from all commodities and commodities-related industries, including final processed goods, in support of development;

24. *Recognizes* the important contributions of the Common Fund for Commodities and other international commodities organizations, and encourages them, in cooperation with the International Trade Centre UNCTAD/WTO, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and other relevant bodies, to continue to strengthen and study ways to establish greater stability in the commodities market as well as to enhance activities in developing countries to improve access to markets and reliability of supply, enhancing diversification and addition of value, improving the competitiveness of commodities, strengthening the market chain, improving market structures, broadening the export base and ensuring the effective participation of all stakeholders;

25. *Stresses* that the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and its partners, in the spirit of inter-agency cooperation and multi-stakeholder partnerships and within their respective mandates, should continue to engage actively in collaborative research and analysis of the commodity problematique and related capacity and consensus-building activities with a view to providing regular analysis and policy advice relevant to the sustainable development of commodity-dependent developing countries, particularly low-income countries;

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[95] Available from www.wto.org/english/docs_e/legal_e/35-dag_e.htm.

26. *Underscores* the urgent need for the provision of, and access to, trade finance to commodity-dependent developing countries, given the tightened access to all types of credit and noting debt sustainability;

27. *Stresses* the importance of the continuing substantive consideration of the sub-item entitled "Commodities", and decides to include the sub-item in the provisional agenda of its sixty-sixth session, under the item entitled "Macroeconomic policy questions";

28. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in collaboration with the secretariat of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution with recommendations and on world commodity trends and prospects, including on the causes of the excessive commodity price volatility.

RESOLUTION 64/193

Adopted at the 66th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/419 (Part II), para. 11)[96]

64/193. Follow-up to and implementation of the Monterrey Consensus and the outcome of the 2008 Review Conference (Doha Declaration on Financing for Development)

The General Assembly,

Recalling the International Conference on Financing for Development, held in Monterrey, Mexico, from 18 to 22 March 2002, and the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus, held in Doha from 29 November to 2 December 2008, and its resolutions 56/210 B of 9 July 2002, 57/250 of 20 December 2002, 57/270 B of 23 June 2003, 57/272 and 57/273 of 20 December 2002, 58/230 of 23 December 2003, 59/225 of 22 December 2004, 60/188 of 22 December 2005, 61/191 of 20 December 2006, 62/187 of 19 December 2007 and 63/239 of 24 December 2008, as well as Economic and Social Council resolutions 2002/34 of 26 July 2002, 2003/47 of 24 July 2003, 2004/64 of 16 September 2004, 2006/45 of 28 July 2006, 2007/30 of 27 July 2007 and 2008/14 of 24 July 2008,

Recalling also the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[97]

Recalling further the Outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development,[98] and underlining the need for the expeditious implementation of and follow-up to the Outcome,

Taking note of Economic and Social Council resolution 2009/30 of 31 July 2009 regarding the strengthening of the intergovernmental process for carrying out the financing for development follow-up,

Taking note also of the reports of the Secretary-General on the follow-up to and implementation of the Monterrey Consensus and Doha Declaration on Financing for Development,[99] and innovative sources of development finance,[100]

Taking note further of the reports of the Secretary-General on the follow-up to and implementation of the outcome of the International Conference on Financing for Development and the report of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus,[101]

Taking note of the special high-level meeting of the Economic and Social Council with the Bretton Woods institutions, the World Trade Organization and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, held in New York on 27 April 2009,

Reaffirming the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development[102] in its entirety, its integrity and its holistic approach, recalling the resolve to take concrete action to implement the Monterrey Consensus and address the challenges of financing for development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity in support of the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and also recommitting itself to staying fully engaged, nationally, regionally and internationally, so as to ensure proper and effective follow-up to and implementation of the Monterrey Consensus,

Reaffirming also that each country must take primary responsibility for its own development and that the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized for the achievement of sustainable development, and recognizing that national efforts should be complemented by supportive global programmes, measures and policies aimed at expanding the development opportunities of developing countries, while taking into account national conditions and ensuring respect for national ownership strategies and sovereignty,

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[96] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee.

[97] See resolution 60/1.

[98] Resolution 63/303, annex.

[99] A/64/322.

[100] A/64/189 and Corr.1.

[101] United Nations publication, Sales No. E.09.II.A.1.

[102] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

Recalling the importance of the overall commitment to just and democratic societies for development as spelled out in the Monterrey Consensus,

Deeply concerned by the adverse impacts of the global financial and economic crisis on development, including on the capacity of developing countries to mobilize resources for development, and recognizing that an effective response to the current crisis requires timely implementation of existing aid commitments,

Emphasizing that the financial and economic crisis has demonstrated the need for more effective government involvement so as to ensure an appropriate balance between the market and the public interest, and recognizing the need to better regulate financial markets,

1. *Welcomes* the holding in Doha of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus, which provided an opportunity to assess progress made, reaffirm goals and commitments, share best practices and lessons learned and identify obstacles and constraints encountered, actions and initiatives to overcome them and important measures for further implementation, as well as new challenges and emerging issues, in the financing for development process;

2. *Stresses* that each country has primary responsibility for its own economic and social development and that the role of national policies, domestic resources and development strategies cannot be overemphasized, and reaffirms the importance of:

(*a*) The implementation of the commitment to sound policies, good governance at all levels and the rule of law;

(*b*) The implementation of the commitment to creating an enabling environment for mobilizing domestic resources and of sound economic policies;

(*c*) The implementation of the commitment to enhancing the coherence and consistency of international monetary, financial and trading systems in order to complement national development efforts;

3. *Recognizes* that a dynamic, inclusive, well-functioning and socially responsible private sector is a valuable instrument for generating economic growth and reducing poverty, emphasizes the need to pursue appropriate policy and regulatory frameworks at national levels and in a manner consistent with national laws through which to encourage public and private initiatives, including at the local level, and to foster a dynamic and well-functioning business sector, while improving income growth and distribution, raising productivity, empowering women and protecting labour rights and the environment, and reiterates the importance of ensuring that the benefits of growth reach all people by empowering individuals and communities;

4. *Reiterates* the importance of investment in human capital, inter alia, in health and education, through inclusive social policies, in accordance with national strategies and priorities;

5. *Recalls* that the ongoing fight against corruption at all levels is a priority, and reaffirms the need to take urgent and decisive steps to continue to combat corruption in all of its manifestations in order to reduce obstacles to effective resource mobilization and allocation and prevent the diversion of resources away from activities that are vital for development, also recalls that this requires strong institutions at all levels, including, in particular, effective legal and judicial systems and enhanced transparency, recognizes the efforts and achievements of developing countries in this regard, takes note of the increased commitment of States that have already ratified or acceded to the United Nations Convention against Corruption,[103] and in this regard urges all States that have not yet done so to consider ratifying or acceding to the Convention;

6. *Also recalls* the resolve of Member States to continue to undertake fiscal reforms, including tax reform, which is key to enhancing macroeconomic policies and mobilizing domestic public resources, further recalls that, while each country is responsible for its tax system, it is important to provide support to national efforts in those areas by strengthening technical assistance and enhancing international cooperation and participation in addressing international tax matters, including in the area of double taxation, and stresses that inclusive and cooperative frameworks should ensure the involvement and equal treatment of all jurisdictions;

7. *Notes* that, while foreign direct investment is a major source of financing for development, the flow of such funds to developing countries and countries with economies in transition has fallen rapidly during the crisis and remains uneven, and in this regard calls upon developed countries to continue to devise source-country measures to encourage and facilitate the flow of foreign direct investment, inter alia, through the provision of export credits and other lending instruments, risk guarantees and business development services calls upon developing countries and countries with economies in transition to continue their efforts to create a conducive domestic environment for attracting investments by, inter alia, achieving a transparent, stable and predictable investment climate with proper contract enforcement and respect for property rights; and stresses the importance of

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[103] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2349, No. 42146.

enhancing efforts to mobilize investment from all sources in human resources and physical, environmental, institutional and social infrastructure;

8. *Reaffirms* that international trade is an engine for development and sustained economic growth and the critical role that a universal, rule-based, open, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system, as well as meaningful trade liberalization, can play in stimulating economic growth and development worldwide, thereby benefiting all countries at all stages of development;

9. *Stresses* the essential role that official development assistance plays in complementing, leveraging and sustaining financing for development in developing countries and in facilitating the achievement of development objectives, including the internationally agreed development goals, in particular the Millennium Development Goals, reiterates that official development assistance can play a catalytic role in assisting developing countries in removing constraints on sustained, inclusive and equitable growth by, inter alia, enhancing social, institutional and physical infrastructure, promoting foreign direct investment, trade and technological innovations, improving health and education, fostering gender equality, preserving the environment and eradicating poverty, and welcomes steps to improve the effectiveness and quality of aid based on the fundamental principles of national ownership, alignment, harmonization, managing for results and mutual accountability;

10. *Underlines* the fact that the fulfilment of all official development assistance commitments is crucial, including the commitments by many developed countries to achieve the target of 0.7 per cent of gross national product for official development assistance to developing countries by 2015 and to reach a level of at least 0.5 per cent of gross national product for official development assistance by 2010, as well as a target of 0.15 per cent to 0.20 per cent of gross national product for official development assistance to least developed countries, and urges developed countries that have not yet done so to fulfil their commitments for official development assistance to developing countries;

11. *Encourages* donors to work on national timetables, by the end of 2010, to increase aid levels within their respective budget allocation processes towards achieving the established official development assistance targets;

12. *Underlines* the important role of the United Nations development system in advancing development and in protecting development gains in accordance with national strategies and priorities, including progress towards achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, threatened by the current economic crisis, reiterates that the United Nations should use the current economic situation as an opportunity to redouble its efforts to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of its development programmes urges donor countries and other countries in a position to do so to substantially increase voluntary contributions to the core/regular budgets of the United Nations development system and to contribute on a multi-year basis, in a sustained and predictable manner, and notes that non-core resources represent an important supplement to the regular resource base of the United Nations development system;

13. *Recognizes* the potential of various voluntary innovative sources of financing to supplement traditional sources of financing, stresses that those funds should be disbursed in accordance with the priorities of developing countries and should not burden them unduly, and encourages the Secretary-General to organize an informal event in 2010, within existing resources, on the potential of voluntary innovative sources of development finance;

14. *Notes* the overall increase in the level of official development assistance in 2008 and that a significant part of aid flows since 2002 has comprised debt relief and humanitarian assistance;

15. *Emphasizes* the great importance of a timely, effective, comprehensive and durable solution to the debt problems of developing countries, since debt financing and relief can be an important source of capital for economic growth and development, and also emphasizes that creditors and debtors must share responsibilities for preventing unsustainable debt situations;

16. *Recognizes* that recent special drawing rights allocations helped to increase global liquidity in response to the global financial and economic crisis;

17. *Reaffirms* the need for a strengthened and more effective intergovernmental inclusive process to carry out the financing for development follow-up and to review progress in the implementation of commitments, identify obstacles, challenges and emerging issues and propose concrete recommendations and actions;

18. *Endorses*, in this regard, the recommendations of the Economic and Social Council as contained in its resolution 2009/30 of 31 July 2009;

19. *Affirms* the need to give more prominence to its annual agenda item entitled "Follow-up to and implementation of the outcome of the 2002 International Conference on Financing for Development and the 2008 Review Conference", and in this regard reiterates the need to review the modalities for the financing for development follow-up process, as appropriate;

20. *Recalls* the decision to consider the need to hold a follow-up financing for development conference by 2013;[104]

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[104] Resolution 63/239, annex, para. 90.

21. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled "Follow-up to and implementation of the outcome of the 2002 International Conference on Financing for Development and the 2008 Review Conference", and requests the Secretary-General to submit, under that item, an annual analytical assessment of the state of implementation of the Monterrey Consensus[102] and the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development,[105] and of the present resolution, which is to be prepared in full collaboration with the major institutional stakeholders and to include concrete proposals on the further strengthening of the financing for development follow-up process for consideration by Member States.

RESOLUTION 64/195

Adopted at the 66th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2009, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/420, para. 15),[106] by a recorded vote of 164 to 8, with 7 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Australia, Canada, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Palau, United States of America

Abstaining: Bangladesh, Cameroon, Colombia, Fiji, Liberia, Panama, Tonga

64/195. Oil slick on Lebanese shores

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 61/194 of 20 December 2006, 62/188 of 19 December 2007 and 63/211 of 19 December 2008 on the oil slick on Lebanese shores,

Reaffirming the outcome of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, especially principle 7 of the Declaration of the Conference,[107] in which States were requested to take all possible steps to prevent pollution of the seas,

Emphasizing the need to protect and preserve the marine environment in accordance with international law,

Taking into account the 1992 Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[108] especially principle 16, in which it was stipulated that the polluter should, in principle, bear the cost of pollution, and taking into account also chapter 17 of Agenda 21,[109]

Noting again with great concern the environmental disaster caused by the destruction by the Israeli Air Force on 15 July 2006 of the oil storage tanks in the direct vicinity of El-Jiyeh electric power plant in Lebanon, resulting in an oil slick that covered the entirety of the Lebanese coastline and extended to the Syrian coastline,

Noting again with appreciation the assistance offered by donor countries and international organizations for the clean-up operations and the early recovery and reconstruction of Lebanon through bilateral and multilateral channels, including the Athens Coordination Meeting on the response to the marine pollution incident in the Eastern Mediterranean, held on 17 August 2006, as well as the Stockholm Conference for Lebanon's Early Recovery, held on 31 August 2006,

Taking note of the fact that the Secretary-General is currently finalizing the mechanism under which the Eastern Mediterranean Oil Spill Restoration Trust Fund will operate,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 63/211 on the oil slick on Lebanese shores;[110]

2. *Reiterates the expression of its deep concern* about the adverse implications of the destruction by the Israeli Air

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[105] Resolution 63/239, annex.

[106] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by the Sudan (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China).

[107] See *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, Stockholm, 5–16 June 1972* (A/CONF.48/14/Rev.1), part one, chap. I.

[108] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[109] Ibid., annex II.

[110] A/64/259.

Force of the oil storage tanks in the direct vicinity of the Lebanese El-Jiyeh electric power plant for the achievement of sustainable development in Lebanon;

3. *Considers* that the oil slick has heavily polluted the shores of Lebanon and partially polluted Syrian shores and consequently has had serious implications for livelihoods and the economy of Lebanon, owing to the adverse implications for natural resources, biodiversity, fisheries and tourism, and for human health, in the country;

4. *Requests* the Government of Israel to assume responsibility for prompt and adequate compensation to the Government of Lebanon and other countries directly affected by the oil slick, such as the Syrian Arab Republic whose shores have been partially polluted, for the costs of repairing the environmental damage caused by the destruction, including the restoration of the marine environment;

5. *Expresses its appreciation* for the efforts of the Government of Lebanon and those of the Member States, regional and international organizations, regional and international financial institutions, non-governmental organizations and the private sector in the initiation of clean-up and rehabilitation operations on the polluted shores, and encourages the Member States and the above-mentioned entities to continue their financial and technical support to the Government of Lebanon towards achieving the completion of clean-up and rehabilitation operations, with the aim of preserving the ecosystem of Lebanon and that of the Eastern Mediterranean Basin;

6. *Reaffirms* its decision to establish an Eastern Mediterranean Oil Spill Restoration Trust Fund,[111] based on voluntary contributions, to provide assistance and support to the States directly adversely affected in their integrated environmentally sound management, from clean-up to safe disposal of oily waste, of this environmental disaster resulting from the destruction of the oil storage tanks at El-Jiyeh electric power plant, and requests the Secretary-General to continue working towards the hosting and operationalization of the Trust Fund and to promptly finalize the implementation of that decision before the end of the sixty-fourth session of the General Assembly;

7. *Invites* States, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and the private sector to make voluntary financial contributions to the Trust Fund, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to mobilize international technical and financial assistance in order to finalize the mechanism under which the Trust Fund will operate;

8. *Recognizes* the multidimensionality of the adverse impact of the oil slick, and requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution under the item entitled "Sustainable development".

RESOLUTION 64/196

Adopted at the 66th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/420, para. 15)[112]

64/196. Harmony with Nature

The General Assembly,

Expressing its concern over the documented environmental degradation and the negative impact on nature resulting from human activity,

Recalling the 1982 World Charter for Nature,[113]

Reaffirming the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[114]

Reaffirming also Agenda 21[115] and the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,[116] the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[117] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),[118]

Recalling the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[119]

Reaffirming its resolution 63/278 of 22 April 2009 on the designation of International Mother Earth Day,

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[111] Resolution 63/211, para. 6.

[112] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Belarus, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chile, Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Dominica, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Georgia, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Haiti, Honduras, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kazakhstan, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malawi, Mali, Mauritius, Micronesia (Federated States of), Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, Ukraine, United Republic of Tanzania,, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Zambia and Zimbabwe.

[113] Resolution 37/7, annex.

[114] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[115] Ibid., annex II.

[116] Resolution S-19/2, annex.

[117] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[118] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

[119] See resolution 60/1.

Convinced that humanity can and should live in harmony with nature,[120]

1. *Invites* Member States, the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, and international, regional and subregional organizations to consider, as appropriate, the issue of promoting life in harmony with nature and to transmit to the Secretary-General their views, experiences and proposals on this issue;

2. *Invites* all Member States, the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, and international, regional and subregional organizations to make use of International Mother Earth Day, as appropriate, to promote activities and exchange opinions and views on conditions, experiences and principles for a life in harmony with nature;

3. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session a sub-item entitled "Harmony with Nature", under the item entitled "Sustainable development";

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to it, at its sixty-fifth session, a report on this theme, taking into account the views and comments received in relation to the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 64/197

Adopted at the 66th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2009, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/420/Add.1, para. 20),[121] by a recorded vote of 146 to 1, with 32 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Maldives, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Somalia

Abstaining: Afghanistan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Ecuador, Indonesia, Iraq, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Namibia, Nicaragua, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen

64/197. Agricultural technology for development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 62/190 of 19 December 2007 on agricultural technology for development,

Recalling also the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[122] Agenda 21,[123] the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,[124] the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[125] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),[126]

Recalling further the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[127]

Recalling its resolution 63/235 of 22 December 2008 on agriculture development and food security,

Recognizing the work done by the Commission on Sustainable Development, in particular at its sixteenth and seventeenth sessions, highlighting the thematic focus on agriculture-related issues, and applauding its call to increase investment in training research and development, in particular on sustainable practices and technologies, including agricultural technologies, and to accelerate the transfer and diffusion of such technologies, information, methods and practices in order to reach all users, including farmers, women, youth and indigenous people as well as those in remote rural areas,

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[120] See resolution 35/7.

[121] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Belize, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Mozambique, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, San Marino, Seychelles, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America and Uruguay.

[122] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[123] Ibid., annex II.

[124] Resolution S-19/2, annex.

[125] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[126] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

[127] See resolution 60/1.

Acknowledging the work performed by the High-level Task Force on the Global Food Security Crisis, established by the Secretary-General in 2008, and the Comprehensive Framework for Action[128] that it produced, specifically its call for increased investments in the development of agricultural technology as well as the transfer and use of existing technologies, as appropriate, especially for smallholder farmers as a means to achieve global food security and poverty reduction,

Recalling the World Summit on Food Security convened by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in Rome from 16 to 18 November 2009, and stressing the vital role of international cooperation in advancing and implementing agricultural technologies,

Welcoming the commitment by the Group of Eight and more than twenty-five countries and organizations in the Joint Statement on Global Food Security, adopted in L'Aquila, Italy, on 10 July 2009,[129] towards the goal of mobilizing 20 billion United States dollars over three years focused on sustainable agriculture development,

Reaffirming its commitment to achieve the Millennium Development Goals, and recognizing the beneficial impact that the adoption of agricultural technologies can have for the achievement of those goals, including for eradicating extreme poverty and hunger, empowering women and ensuring environmental sustainability,

Concerned by the slow progress so far in achieving the above-mentioned goals, in particular by the fact that Africa remains the only continent currently not on track to achieve any of the goals of the United Nations Millennium Declaration[130] by 2015, and recognizing the need to intensify the efforts of the international community in its attempt to reach the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Acknowledging the importance and the potential of smallholder farmers in increasing agricultural production, achieving economic growth and reducing poverty,

Stressing the critical role of women in the agricultural sector and their contribution to enhancing agricultural and rural development, improving food security and eradicating rural poverty, and underlining further the fact that meaningful progress in agricultural development necessitates a focus on supporting and empowering women,

Acknowledging the role and work of civil society in furthering progress in developing countries, in promoting the use of sustainable agricultural technology and the training of smallholder farmers, in raising awareness and in the provision and dissemination of information,

Aware that the world financial and economic crisis, in addition to other global challenges, has a negative impact on food security and development, specifically in the agricultural sector, thereby negatively impacting the most vulnerable groups and potentially setting back progress made in achieving the Millennium Development Goals,

Considering the increasing need to innovate in agriculture and food production in order to respond to the challenges posed by, inter alia, climate change, depletion and scarcity of natural resources, urbanization and globalization, and recognizing that sustainable agricultural technologies can greatly contribute to the adaptation of agriculture to, and help to mitigate the negative impact of, climate change, land degradation and desertification,

Underlining the importance of collaboration, sharing of information and dissemination of agricultural technology research results as well as wide consultation when defining the global, regional and national research agendas, and in this regard noting the valuable role of, inter alia, the Global Forum on Agricultural Research and its affiliated or associated organizations,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General on agricultural technology for development;[131]

2. *Calls upon* Member States and relevant United Nations organizations to make greater efforts to develop and disseminate appropriate sustainable agricultural technologies, particularly in and with developing countries, under fair, transparent and mutually agreed terms, and to support national efforts to foster utilization of local know-how and agricultural technologies, promote agricultural technology research and enable poor rural women, men and youth to increase sustainable agricultural productivity and enhance food security;

3. *Calls attention* to the crucial role of women in the agricultural sector, and therefore calls upon Member States to promote and support better access of women to agricultural technology information and know-how, equipment and decision-making forums;

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[128] Available from www.un.org/issues/food/taskforce/cfa.shtml.

[129] Available from www.ifad.org/events/g8.

[130] See resolution 55/2.

[131] A/64/258.

4. *Underlines* the importance of supporting and advancing research in improving and diversifying crop varieties, as well as supporting the establishment of agricultural systems and sustainable management practices, in order to make agriculture more resilient and, in particular, to make crops more tolerant to environmental stress, including drought and climate change, in a manner consistent with national regulations and relevant international agreements;

5. *Also underlines* the importance of the sustainable use and management of water resources to increase and ensure agricultural productivity, and calls for further efforts to strengthen the provision and proper maintenance of irrigation facilities as well as to introduce water-saving technology, considering the possible impact of climate change on water resources;

6. *Encourages* Member States, civil society and public and private institutions to develop partnerships to support financial and market services, including training, capacity-building, infrastructure and extension services to farmers, in particular smallholder farmers, and calls for further efforts by all stakeholders to make appropriate sustainable agricultural technologies available and affordable to smallholder farmers;

7. *Calls upon* Member States to include sustainable agricultural development as an integral part of their national policies and strategies, notes the positive impact that North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation can have in this regard, and urges the relevant bodies of the United Nations system to include elements of agricultural technology, research and development in efforts to achieve the Millennium Development Goals;

8. *Requests* relevant United Nations organizations, including the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the International Fund for Agricultural Development, to promote, support and facilitate the exchange of experience among Member States on ways to sustainably expand areas for agriculture and increase opportunities for agricultural development through technologies that allow soil recovery, improve soil fertility and increase agricultural production in pressing environmental circumstances;

9. *Underlines* the instrumental role of agricultural technology in furthering sustainable development and in achieving the Millennium Development Goals, calls therefore upon Member States and encourages relevant international bodies to support sustainable agricultural research and development, and in this regard calls for continued support to the international agricultural research system, including the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research and other relevant international organizations;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 64/198

Adopted at the 66th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/420/Add.1, para. 20)[132]

64/198. Midterm comprehensive review of the implementation of the International Decade for Action, "Water for Life", 2005–2015

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 55/196 of 20 December 2000, by which it proclaimed 2003 the International Year of Freshwater, its resolution 58/217 of 23 December 2003, by which it proclaimed that the International Decade for Action, "Water for Life", 2005–2015, would commence on World Water Day, 22 March 2005, and its resolution 59/228 of 22 December 2004,

Emphasizing that water is critical for sustainable development, including environmental integrity and the eradication of poverty and hunger, and is indispensable for human health and well-being,

Recalling the provisions of Agenda 21,[133] the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 adopted at its nineteenth special session,[134] the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation")[135] and the decisions of the Economic and Social Council and of the Commission on Sustainable Development at its sixth session[136] relating to freshwater,

Reaffirming the internationally agreed development goals on water and sanitation, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[137] and determined to achieve the goal to halve, by 2015, the proportion of people who are unable to reach or to afford safe drinking water, and the goals set out in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation to halve the proportion of people without access to basic sanitation as well as to develop integrated water resources management and water efficiency plans by 2005, with support to developing countries,

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[132] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Australia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Canada, Chile, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, France, Germany, Greece, Haiti, Israel, Italy, Kazakhstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Madagascar, Mauritius, Monaco, Mongolia, Peru, Philippines, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Seychelles, Singapore, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and Uruguay.

[133] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex II.

[134] Resolution S-19/2, annex.

[135] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[136] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1998, Supplement No. 9* (E/1998/29).

[137] See resolution 55/2.

Recalling Human Rights Council resolutions 7/22 of 28 March 2008[138] and 12/8 of 1 October 2009,[139] on human rights and access to safe drinking water and sanitation,

Taking note of national, regional and international efforts to implement the International Decade for Action, "Water for Life", 2005–2015, and of numerous recommendations from international and regional water and water-related events, with a view to taking concrete actions to accelerate progress at all levels towards achieving the internationally agreed water-related goals contained in Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21, the United Nations Millennium Declaration and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation,

Taking note also of the holding of the Fifth World Water Forum in Istanbul, Turkey, from 16 to 22 March 2009, and noting that the Sixth World Water Forum will be held in Marseille, France, in March 2012,

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General;[140]

2. *Welcomes* the activities related to the implementation of the International Decade for Action, "Water for Life", 2005–2015, undertaken by Member States, the Secretariat and the organizations of the United Nations system, inter alia, through inter-agency work, as well as contributions from major groups, and emphasizes the importance of country-level implementation of the Decade;

3. *Encourages* Member States, the Secretariat, organizations of the United Nations system through their coordination mechanism, and major groups to continue their efforts to achieve the internationally agreed water-related goals contained in Agenda 21,[133] the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,[134] the United Nations Millennium Declaration[137] and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;[135]

4. *Welcomes* the work of the Commission on Sustainable Development at its twelfth, thirteenth, sixteenth and seventeenth sessions on the issues of water and sanitation, and looks forward to any relevant activities of the Commission;

5. *Welcomes* the generous offer of the Government of Tajikistan to host, in June 2010, a high-level international conference on the midterm comprehensive review of the implementation of the Decade;

6. *Invites* the President of the General Assembly to convene a high-level interactive dialogue of the sixty-fourth session of the General Assembly in New York on 22 March 2010, World Water Day, on the implementation of the Decade;

7. *Stresses* the importance of the full involvement of all relevant stakeholders, including women, children, older persons, persons with disabilities, indigenous people and other local communities, in the implementation of the Decade at all levels, including its midterm comprehensive review;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare a note on the organization of work of the conference;

9. *Invites* the relevant United Nations bodies, the specialized agencies, the regional commissions and other organizations of the United Nations system to actively engage in the preparations for the high-level conference;

10. *Invites* the Secretary-General, in cooperation with UN-Water, to take appropriate actions to support Member States in the implementation of the second half of the Decade;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution, as well as on the activities planned by the Secretary-General and other relevant organizations of the United Nations system for the Decade.

RESOLUTION 64/199

Adopted at the 66th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/420/Add.2, para. 9)[141]

64/199. Follow-up to and implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the Declaration of Barbados[142] and the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[143] adopted by the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, and recalling its resolution 49/122 of 19 December 1994 on the Global Conference,

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[138] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-third Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/63/53), chap. II.

[139] See A/HRC/12/50, part one, chap. I.

[140] A/59/167 and A/60/158.

[141] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Rapporteur of the Committee.

[142] *Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April–6 May 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[143] Ibid., annex II.

Reaffirming also the Mauritius Declaration[144] and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States ("Mauritius Strategy for Implementation"),[145] adopted by the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States on 14 January 2005,

Recalling its resolutions 59/311 of 14 July 2005, 60/194 of 22 December 2005, 61/196 of 20 December 2006, 62/191 of 19 December 2007 and 63/213 of 19 December 2008,

Recalling also the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[146]

Reaffirming that the Commission on Sustainable Development is the primary intergovernmental forum for monitoring the implementation of the Barbados Programme of Action and the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation,

Reaffirming also that the adverse effects of climate change and sea-level rise present significant and specific risks to the sustainable development of small island developing States, that the effects of climate change may threaten the very existence of some of them and that, given their vulnerability, adaptation to the adverse effects of climate change and sea-level rise therefore remains a major priority for small island developing States,

Recognizing the urgent need to increase the level of resources provided to small island developing States for the effective implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation,

Underlining the importance of developing and strengthening national sustainable development strategies in small island developing States,

Recalling the decision to review progress made in addressing the vulnerabilities of small island developing States through the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation at the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the follow-up to and implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation;[147]

2. *Reaffirms* its decision to convene a two-day high-level review in September 2010 as part of its sixty-fifth session, to assess progress made in addressing the vulnerabilities of small island developing States through the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation;[145]

3. *Decides* that the high-level review will be structured around an opening plenary meeting, followed by two multi-stakeholder round-table sessions, an interactive dialogue on cross-regional perspectives and a closing plenary meeting;

4. *Also decides* that the review will be chaired by the President of the General Assembly, and requests the President of the General Assembly to present a concise draft political declaration based on, inter alia, inputs from the preparatory meetings, at an appropriate date to enable sufficient consideration and agreement by Member States;

5. *Reaffirms* that the review should provide the international community with an opportunity to conduct a thorough assessment of the progress made, lessons learned and constraints encountered in the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation and to agree on what needs to be done to further address the vulnerabilities of small island developing States;

6. *Decides* to convene regional preparatory meetings of small island developing States in their respective regions, as well as an interregional meeting for all small island developing States, to undertake the review of the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation at the national and regional levels, and also decides that, for this purpose, the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, through its Small Island Developing States Unit, the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States and the relevant agencies of the United Nations system, including regional commissions, within their respective mandates and existing resources, should organize, facilitate and provide necessary support to the review process at the national, regional and international levels;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in this context, to provide a comprehensive report on progress made and on the continuing challenges faced in the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation, noting the importance of paragraphs 87, 88 and 101 of the Mauritius Strategy and of taking into account cross-cutting implementation issues;

8. *Decides* that the meeting of the preparatory committee for the high-level review will be convened during the eighteenth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development, in accordance with Commission resolution 17/2 of 15 May 2009;[148]

9. *Invites* the participation of associate members of regional commissions in the high-level review, subject to the

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[144] *Report of the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Port Louis, Mauritius, 10–14 January 2005* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.05.II.A.4 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[145] Ibid., annex II.

[146] See resolution 60/1.

[147] A/64/278.

[148] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2009, Supplement No. 9* (E/2009/29), chap. I, sect. B.

rules of procedure of the General Assembly, and in the preparatory process thereof, as observers, in the same capacity specified for their participation at the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, held in Mauritius from 10 to 14 January 2005;

10. *Invites* all Member States and States members of the specialized agencies, relevant regional and international agencies and organizations, in accordance with the rules of procedure of the Commission on Sustainable Development and the General Assembly, to participate fully in the preparatory activities and the high-level review;

11. *Urges* that representation and participation at the high-level review be at the highest possible level, including with the participation of Heads of State or Government;

12. *Invites* heads of the United Nations funds and programmes, the specialized agencies and regional commissions, as well as heads of intergovernmental organizations and entities having observer status in the General Assembly, to participate, as appropriate, in the review, in accordance with the rules and procedures as established by the General Assembly;

13. *Stresses* the need for the effective participation of civil society, in particular non-governmental organizations and other major groups, in preparing for the high-level review, as well as the need to ensure appropriate arrangements, taking into account the practice and experience gained at the International Meeting held in Mauritius, for their substantive contributions to and active involvement in the preparatory meetings and the high-level review, and in this context invites the President of the General Assembly, in consultation with Member States, to propose to Member States appropriate modalities for their effective involvement in the high-level review;

14. *Encourages* relevant major groups organizations that are not currently accredited by the Economic and Social Council to submit applications to participate as observers in the high-level review, as well as its preparatory meeting, in accordance with the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, following the accreditation procedures established during the International Meeting held in Mauritius;

15. *Acknowledges with appreciation* the contribution of Member States and other international donors to support activities related to small island developing States, including through the voluntary trust fund;

16. *Invites* Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, other major groups and other donors to contribute to the voluntary trust fund for the purpose of assisting small island developing States in participating fully and effectively in the high-level review and the various preparatory processes;

17. *Urges* Governments and all relevant international and regional organizations, United Nations funds and programmes, the specialized agencies and regional commissions, international financial institutions and the Global Environment Facility, as well as other intergovernmental organizations and major groups, to take timely action for the effective implementation of and follow-up to the Mauritius Declaration[144] and the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation, including the further development and operationalization of concrete projects and programmes;

18. *Calls for* the full and effective implementation of the commitments, programmes and targets adopted at the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States and, to this end, for the fulfilment of the provisions for the means of implementation, as contained in the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation, and encourages small island developing States and their development partners to continue to consult widely in order to develop further concrete projects and programmes for the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation;

19. *Encourages* enhanced, closer and early consultation with small island developing States in the planning and coordination, as appropriate, of the activities related to the high-level review of the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation, and emphasizes the importance of enhanced interaction between small island developing States and the relevant agencies of the United Nations system addressing issues concerning small island developing States;

20. *Reiterates* the importance of providing the Small Island Developing States Unit with adequate, stable and predictable funding to facilitate the full and effective implementation of its mandates in accordance with the priority accorded to the Unit and in view of the demand for its services, in particular with respect to the provision of assistance, technical cooperation services and support to small island developing States;

21. *Also reiterates* the importance of ensuring sufficient and sustainable staffing of the Small Island Developing States Unit so that it may undertake its broad range of mandated functions with a view to facilitating the full and effective implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation;

22. *Calls for* the provision of new and additional voluntary resources to ensure the revitalization and sustainability of the Small Island Developing States Information Network, and in this regard welcomes the contribution of the Government of Spain to support the revitalization of the Network;

23. *Calls upon* the international community to enhance support for the efforts of small island developing States to adapt to the adverse impacts of climate change, including through the

provision of dedicated sources of financing, capacity-building and the transfer of appropriate technologies to address climate change;

24. *Reiterates its request* to the relevant agencies of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates, to intensify efforts aimed at mainstreaming the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation in their work programmes and to establish a focal point for matters related to small island developing States within their respective secretariats to support coordinated implementation of the Programme of Action at the national, subregional, regional and global levels;

25. *Calls upon* the international community to enhance its support for the implementation of the programme of work on island biodiversity[149] as a set of actions to address characteristics and problems that are specific to islands, adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity at its eighth meeting, in 2006;

26. *Calls for* continued support for the design and implementation of national sustainable development strategies in all small island developing States;

27. *Encourages* the implementation of partnership initiatives, within the framework of the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation, in support of the sustainable development of small island developing States;

28. *Invites* the small island developing States to consider, at their relevant intergovernmental meetings, assessments of and relevant contributions to the review process;

29. *Calls upon* the international community to support the efforts to review progress made in addressing the vulnerabilities of small island developing States through the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation, including by facilitating the participation of small island developing States in review activities;

30. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development", the sub-item entitled "Follow-up to and implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States".

RESOLUTION 64/200

Adopted at the 66th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/420/Add.3, para. 7)[150]

64/200. International Strategy for Disaster Reduction

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 44/236 of 22 December 1989, 49/22 A of 2 December 1994, 49/22 B of 20 December 1994, 53/185 of 15 December 1998, 54/219 of 22 December 1999, 56/195 of 21 December 2001, 57/256 of 20 December 2002, 58/214 of 23 December 2003, 59/231 of 22 December 2004, 60/195 of 22 December 2005, 61/198 of 20 December 2006, 62/192 of 19 December 2007 and 63/216 of 19 December 2008 and Economic and Social Council resolutions 1999/63 of 30 July 1999 and 2001/35 of 26 July 2001, and taking into consideration its resolution 57/270 B of 23 June 2003 on the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields,

Recalling also the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[151]

Reaffirming the Hyogo Declaration,[152] the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005–2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters[153] and the common statement of the special session on the Indian Ocean disaster risk reduction for a safer future,[154] as adopted by the World Conference on Disaster Reduction,

Reaffirming also its role in providing policy guidance on the implementation of the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits,

Expressing its deep concern at the number and scale of natural disasters and their increasing impact in recent years, which have resulted in massive loss of life and long-term negative social, economic and environmental consequences for vulnerable societies throughout the world and hamper the achievement of their sustainable development, in particular in developing countries,

Expressing its deep concern also at the increasing challenges facing the disaster response and preparedness capacity of Member States and the United Nations system as a result of the combined impacts of current global challenges, including the global economic and financial crisis, climate change and the food crisis,

Emphasizing that disaster risk reduction, including the reduction of vulnerability to natural disasters, is an important cross-cutting element that contributes to the achievement of sustainable development,

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[149] UNEP/CBD/COP/8/31, annex I, decision VIII/1, annex.

[150] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Rapporteur of the Committee.

[151] See resolution 60/1.

[152] A/CONF.206/6 and Corr.1, chap. I, resolution 1.

[153] Ibid., resolution 2.

[154] A/CONF.206/6 and Corr.1, annex II.

Recognizing the clear relationship between sustainable development, poverty eradication, disaster risk reduction, disaster response and disaster recovery and the need to continue to deploy efforts in all these areas,

Recognizing also the urgent need to further develop and make use of the existing scientific and technical knowledge to build resilience to natural disasters, and emphasizing the need for developing countries to have access to appropriate, advanced, environmentally sound, cost-effective and easy-to-use technologies so as to seek more comprehensive solutions to disaster risk reduction and to effectively and efficiently strengthen their capabilities to cope with disaster risks,

Recognizing further that certain measures for disaster risk reduction in the context of the Hyogo Framework for Action can also support adaptation to climate change, and emphasizing the importance of strengthening the resilience of nations and communities to natural disasters through disaster risk reduction programmes,

Stressing the importance of advancing the implementation of the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation")[155] and its relevant provisions on vulnerability, risk assessment and disaster management,

Recognizing the need to continue to develop an understanding of, and to address, socio-economic activities that exacerbate the vulnerability of societies to natural disasters and to build and further strengthen local authorities and community capabilities to reduce vulnerability to disasters,

Having considered the recommendation of the Secretary-General regarding General Assembly resolution 54/219,[156]

Taking note with appreciation of the "Global Assessment Report on Disaster Risk Reduction" launched in Manama in May 2009,[157]

Noting the *World Disasters Report 2009: Focus on early warning, early action*,[158]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction;[159]

2. *Recalls* that the commitments of the Hyogo Declaration[152] and the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005–2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters[153] include the provision of assistance for developing countries that are prone to natural disasters and disaster-stricken States in the transition phase towards sustainable physical, social and economic recovery, for risk reduction activities in post-disaster recovery and for rehabilitation processes;

3. *Welcomes* the progress made in the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action, and stresses the need for a more effective integration of disaster risk reduction into sustainable development policies, planning and programming, for the development and strengthening of institutions, mechanisms and capacities at the regional, national and local levels to build resilience to hazards, and for a systematic incorporation of risk reduction approaches into the implementation of emergency preparedness, response and recovery programmes and long-term development plans, as a means to achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;

4. *Calls upon* the international community to increase its efforts to fully implement the commitments of the Hyogo Declaration and the Hyogo Framework for Action;

5. *Invites* Member States, the United Nations system, international financial institutions, regional bodies and other international organizations, including the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, as well as civil society, including non-governmental organizations and volunteers, the private sector and the scientific community, to increase efforts to support, implement and follow up the Hyogo Framework for Action, and stresses the importance in this regard of the continued cooperation and coordination of stakeholders at all levels with respect to addressing effectively the impact of natural disasters;

6. *Calls upon* the United Nations system, and invites international financial institutions and regional and international organizations, to integrate the goals of, and take into full account, the Hyogo Framework for Action in their strategies and programmes, making use of existing coordination mechanisms, and to assist developing countries with those mechanisms to design and implement, as appropriate, disaster risk reduction measures with a sense of urgency;

7. *Also calls upon* the United Nations system, and invites the international financial institutions and regional banks and other regional and international organizations, to support, in a timely and sustained manner, the efforts led by disaster-stricken countries for disaster risk reduction in post-disaster recovery and rehabilitation processes;

8. *Recognizes* that each State has the primary responsibility for its own sustainable development and for taking effective measures to reduce disaster risk, including for the protection of people on its territory, infrastructure and other national assets from the impact of disasters, including the implementation of and follow-up to the Hyogo Framework

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[155] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[156] See A/63/351.

[157] Available from www.unisdr.org.

[158] Available from www.ifrc.org.

[159] A/64/280.

for Action, and stresses the importance of international cooperation and partnerships to support those national efforts;

9. *Also recognizes* the efforts made by Member States to develop national and local capacities to implement the Hyogo Framework for Action, including through the establishment of national platforms for disaster reduction, and encourages Member States that have not done so to develop such capacities;

10. *Further recognizes* the importance of coordinating adaptation to climate change with relevant disaster risk reduction measures, invites Governments and relevant international organizations to integrate these considerations in a comprehensive manner into, inter alia, development plans and poverty eradication programmes and, in least developed countries, national adaptation programmes of action, and invites the international community to support the ongoing efforts of developing countries in this regard;

11. *Urges* Member States to continue to develop, update and strengthen disaster risk reduction, including preparedness measures, at all levels, in accordance with the Hyogo Framework for Action, taking into account their own circumstances and capacities and in coordination with relevant actors, as appropriate, and encourages the international community and relevant United Nations entities to give increased priority to supporting national and local efforts in this regard;

12. *Welcomes* the regional and subregional initiatives developed in order to achieve disaster risk reduction, and reiterates the need to further develop regional initiatives and risk reduction capacities of regional mechanisms where they exist and to strengthen them and encourage the use and sharing of all existing tools, and requests United Nations regional commissions, within their mandates, to support the efforts of Member States in this regard, in close coordination with implementing entities of the United Nations system;

13. *Encourages* the Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery, a partnership of the Strategy system managed by the World Bank, to continue to support the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action;

14. *Encourages* the secretariat of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction to continue to develop, promote and improve methods for predictive multirisk assessments, including on the economics of disaster risk reduction and socio-economic cost-benefit analysis of risk reduction actions at all levels;

15. *Calls upon* the international community to support the development and strengthening of institutions, mechanisms and capacities at all levels, in particular at the community level, that can systematically contribute to building resilience to hazards;

16. *Encourages* Member States to increase their commitment to the effective implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action, by strengthening their participation in the Strategy system, including national and regional platforms, thematic technical platforms and the midterm review process, as well as the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction;

17. *Notes with appreciation* the second session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, on the theme "Disasters, poverty and vulnerability", held in Geneva from 16 to 19 June 2009, as an important forum for Member States and other stakeholders to assess progress made in the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action, enhance awareness of disaster risk reduction, share experiences and learn from good practices;

18. *Recognizes* the importance of integrating a gender perspective and empowering and engaging women in the design and implementation of all phases of disaster management, as well as in risk reduction strategies and programmes, and encourages the secretariat of the Strategy to continue to increase the promotion of gender mainstreaming and empowerment of women;

19. *Expresses its appreciation* to those countries that have provided financial support for the activities of the Strategy by making voluntary contributions to the United Nations Trust Fund for Disaster Reduction;

20. *Encourages* the international community to continue providing adequate voluntary financial contributions to the Trust Fund in the effort to ensure adequate support for the follow-up activities to the Hyogo Framework for Action, and encourages Member States to make multiannual, unmarked contributions as early in the year as possible;

21. *Encourages* Governments, multilateral organizations, international and regional organizations, international and regional financial institutions, the private sector and civil society to systematically invest in disaster risk reduction with a view to implementing the objectives of the Strategy;

22. *Stresses* the importance of disaster risk reduction and subsequent increased responsibilities of the secretariat of the Strategy, and reiterates the request to the Secretary-General to explore all means of securing additional funding to ensure predictable and stable financial resources for the operation of the secretariat;

23. *Acknowledges* the importance of early warning systems, encourages Member States to integrate such systems into their national disaster risk reduction strategies and plans, and encourages all stakeholders to share good practices on early warning, using existing information-sharing mechanisms within the Strategy system;

24. *Stresses* the need to foster better understanding and knowledge of the causes of disasters, as well as to build and strengthen coping capacities through, inter alia, the transfer and

exchange of experiences and technical knowledge, educational and training programmes for disaster risk reduction, access to relevant data and information, the strengthening of institutional arrangements and the promotion of community participation and ownership through community-based disaster risk management approaches;

25. *Emphasizes* the need for the international community to maintain its focus beyond emergency relief and to support medium- and long-term rehabilitation, reconstruction and risk reduction, and stresses the importance of implementing and adapting long-term programmes related to the eradication of poverty, sustainable development and disaster risk reduction management in the most vulnerable regions, particularly in developing countries prone to natural disasters;

26. *Stresses* the need to address risk reduction of and vulnerabilities to all natural hazards, including geological and hydrometeorological hazards, in a comprehensive manner;

27. *Takes note* of the global initiative of the Strategy to secure the safety of schools and hospitals, in particular by investing in actions to undertake national assessments of the safety of existing education and health facilities by 2011 and to develop and implement, as appropriate, concrete action plans for safer schools and hospitals by 2015, and encourages Member States to report on this on a voluntary basis;

28. *Decides* to designate 13 October as the date to commemorate the International Day for Disaster Reduction;[160]

29. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, under the item entitled "Sustainable development".

RESOLUTION 64/201

Adopted at the 66th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/420/Add.5, para. 14)[161]

64/201. United Nations Decade for Deserts and the Fight against Desertification (2010–2020)

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 58/211 of 23 December 2003, in which it declared 2006 the International Year of Deserts and Desertification,

Recalling also its resolution 62/195 of 19 December 2007, in which it decided to declare the decade 2010–2020 as the United Nations Decade for Deserts and the Fight against Desertification, based on the recommendation of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme at its twenty-fourth session,[162]

Recalling further its resolutions 61/202 of 20 December 2006, 62/193 of 19 December 2007 and 63/218 of 19 December 2008 and other resolutions relating to the implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,[163]

Recalling the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[164]

Deeply concerned about the deteriorating situation of desertification in all regions, particularly in Africa, and its far-reaching implications for the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, in particular the eradication of poverty and ensuring environmental sustainability,

Responding to the call of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention at its ninth session for the implementation of the United Nations Decade for Deserts and the Fight against Desertification,[165]

Taking into account the success of the International Year of Deserts and Desertification, 2006, in raising awareness of desertification, land degradation and drought,

Committed to raising the awareness of desertification, land degradation and drought at all levels, consistent with the ten-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (2008–2018),[166]

1. *Recalls* its decision to declare the decade 2010–2020 as the United Nations Decade for Deserts and the Fight against Desertification;

2. *Designates* the secretariat of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa as the focal point of the Decade, in collaboration with the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Development Programme, the International Fund for Agricultural Development and other relevant bodies of the United Nations, including the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat;

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[160] Resolution 44/236, para. 2; resolution 54/219, para. 5; resolution 56/195, para 23; and resolution 57/256, fifth preambular paragraph.

[161] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Rapporteur of the Committee.

[162] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 25* (A/62/25), annex I, decision 24/14; see also General Assembly resolution 61/185 and Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67.

[163] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1954, No. 33480.

[164] See resolution 60/1.

[165] ICCD/COP(9)/15.

[166] A/C.2/62/7, annex.

3. *Invites* States parties to the Convention, observers and other relevant stakeholders to organize activities to observe the Decade with the aim of raising awareness of the causes of and solutions to ongoing land degradation and desertification in the framework of the ten-year strategic plan and framework to enhance implementation of the Convention (2008–2018);[166]

4. *Encourages* Member States and multilateral agencies in a position to do so to support the secretariat of the Convention financially and technically, with a view to supporting special initiatives in observance of the Decade as well as other observance events and activities worldwide;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session on the status of the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 64/202

Adopted at the 66th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/420/Add.5, para. 14)[167]

64/202. Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 58/211 of 23 December 2003, 61/202 of 20 December 2006, 62/193 of 19 December 2007, 63/218 of 19 December 2008 and other resolutions relating to the implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,[168]

Reasserting its commitment to combating and reversing desertification and land degradation in arid, semi-arid and dry sub-humid areas, consistent with articles 1, 2 and 3 of the Convention, and to mitigating the effects of drought, eradicating extreme poverty, promoting sustainable development and food security and improving the livelihoods of vulnerable people affected by drought and/or desertification, taking into account the ten-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (2008–2018),[169]

Reaffirming the universal membership of the Convention, and acknowledging that desertification, land degradation and drought are problems of a global dimension in that they affect all regions of the world,

Taking note with appreciation of the decision adopted in Sirte, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, on 3 July 2009 by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union at its thirteenth ordinary session, authorizing the African Union to accede to the Convention,[170]

Reaffirming the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),[171] in which the Convention is recognized as one of the tools for poverty eradication, and reiterating its resolve to eradicate extreme poverty,

Noting the need for enhanced cooperation among the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,[168] the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[172] and the Convention on Biological Diversity[173] ("the Rio Conventions"), while respecting their individual mandates,

Welcoming the outcomes of the seventeenth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development regarding desertification, land degradation and drought,[174]

Concerned by the increasing frequency and severity of dust/sandstorms affecting arid and semi-arid regions and their negative impact on the environment and the economy,

Concerned also by the negative impacts that desertification, land degradation, loss of biodiversity and climate change have on each other, recognizing the potential benefits of complementarities in addressing these problems in a mutually supportive manner, and recognizing also the interrelationship between climate change, loss of biodiversity and desertification and the need to intensify efforts to combat desertification and promote sustainable land management,

Recognizing the need for investment in sustainable land management in arid, semi-arid and dry sub-humid areas, and emphasizing the need for the full implementation of the ten-year strategic plan and framework,

Recognizing also the need to strengthen the scientific basis underpinning the Convention,

Recognizing further the importance given by the ten-year strategic plan and framework to the development and implementation of scientifically based and sound methods for monitoring and assessing desertification,

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[167] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Rapporteur of the Committee.

[168] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1954, No. 33480.

[169] A/C.2/62/7, annex.

[170] African Union, document Assembly/AU/Decl.1-5 (XIII), decision Assembly/AU/Dec.255 (XIII). Available from www.africa-union.org.

[171] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[172] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[173] Ibid., vol. 1760, No. 30619.

[174] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2009, Supplement No. 9* (E/2009/29).

Expressing its deep appreciation to the Government of Argentina for hosting the ninth session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention in Buenos Aires from 21 September to 2 October 2009,

Welcoming the offer of the Government of the Republic of Korea to host the tenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention in Changwon City, Gyeongnam Province, in autumn 2011,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa;[175]

2. *Welcomes* the outcome of the seventeenth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development and its policy recommendations, particularly those related to the strengthening of the institutional policy framework and the implementation of practical measures to combat land degradation and desertification in arid, semi-arid and dry sub-humid areas, enhancing capacity-building, transfer of technology and financing;

3. *Recognizes* the cross-sectoral nature of desertification, land degradation and drought mitigation, and in this regard invites all relevant United Nations agencies to cooperate with the Convention[164] in supporting an effective response to desertification and drought;

4. *Invites* Member States to continue to integrate plans and strategies related to drought, desertification and land degradation into their national development and poverty eradication strategies, as appropriate;

5. *Welcomes* the decision of the Conference of the Parties on the promotion and strengthening of relationships between the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification and other relevant conventions and international organizations, institutions and agencies;[176]

6. *Notes* the ongoing work of the Joint Liaison Group of the secretariats and offices of the relevant subsidiary bodies of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,[172] the Convention on Biological Diversity[173] and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, and *encourages* continuing cooperation in order to promote complementarities in the work of the secretariats, while respecting their independent legal status;

7. *Encourages* actions to promote sustainable management of soil as one means for mitigating the effects of drought in arid, semi-arid and dry sub-humid areas;

8. *Invites* Member States and related organizations to cooperate in sharing information, forecasting and early warning systems related to dust/sandstorms;

9. *Takes note* of the launch of the Global Network of Dryland Research Institutes in Buenos Aires in September 2009 during the ninth session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, which aims to promote research, education, training and outreach relevant to the sustainable use of drylands;

10. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Committee on Science and Technology, and, in this respect, welcomes the outcome of the first United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification Scientific Conference, held in the context of the ninth session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention;

11. *Takes note* of the report of the Joint Inspection Unit on the assessment of the Global Mechanism of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification[177] as well as the decision of the Conference of the Parties at its ninth session[178] requesting the Bureau of the ninth session, together with the Managing Director of the Global Mechanism and the Executive Secretary, and taking into account the views of other interested relevant entities such as the host countries and the International Fund for Agricultural Development, to undertake and supervise an evaluation of existing and potential reporting, accountability and institutional arrangements for the Global Mechanism and their legal and financial implications, including the possibility of identifying a new institution or organization to house the Global Mechanism, taking into account the scenarios presented in the Joint Inspection Unit assessment of the Global Mechanism and the need to avoid duplication and overlap in the work of the secretariat of the Convention and the Global Mechanism, and further requesting the Bureau to submit to the Conference of the Parties at its tenth session a report on this evaluation for consideration and decision on the issue of reporting, accountability and institutional arrangements for the Global Mechanism;

12. *Requests* all States parties to the Convention to promote awareness among local populations, particularly women, youth and civil society organizations, and to include them in, the implementation of the ten-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (2008–2018), and encourages affected States parties and donors to take into account the issue of participation of civil society in Convention processes when setting priorities in national development strategies, in conformity, inter alia, with the comprehensive communication strategy adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its ninth session;

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[175] A/64/202, sect. II.

[176] ICCD/COP(9)/18/Add.1, decision 8/COP.9.

[177] See A/64/379.

[178] ICCD/COP(9)/18/Add.1, decision 6/COP.9.

13. *Invites* donors to the Global Environment Facility to ensure that the Facility is adequately resourced during the next replenishment period in order to allow it to allocate sufficient and adequate resources to its six focal areas, in particular its land degradation focal area;

14. *Welcomes* the ongoing efforts of the Executive Secretary of the Convention to continue the administrative renewal and reform of the secretariat and to realign its functions in order to fully implement the relevant decisions of the Conference of the Parties and bring those functions into line with the ten-year strategic plan and framework;

15. *Decides* to include in the United Nations calendar of conferences and meetings for the biennium 2010–2011 the sessions of the Conference of the Parties and its subsidiary bodies envisaged for the biennium;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to make provisions for the sessions of the Conference of the Parties and its subsidiary bodies in his proposal for the programme budget for the biennium 2010–2011;

17. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the sub-item entitled "Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa";

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, including a report on the implementation of the Convention.

RESOLUTION 64/203

Adopted at the 68th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/420/Add.6, para. 10)[179]

64/203. Convention on Biological Diversity

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 55/201 of 20 December 2000, 61/204 of 20 December 2006, 62/194 of 19 December 2007 and 63/219 of 19 December 2008 and other previous resolutions relating to the Convention on Biological Diversity,[180]

Recalling also its resolution 61/203 of 20 December 2006 on the International Year of Biodiversity in 2010,

Reiterating that the Convention is the key international instrument for the conservation and sustainable use of biological resources and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the use of genetic resources,

Recognizing the potential contribution of other multilateral environmental agreements, including the biodiversity-related conventions, and of international organizations in support of the three objectives of the Convention,

Noting both the positive and the negative impacts of climate change mitigation and adaptation activities on biodiversity and relevant ecosystems,

Noting also that one hundred and ninety-two States and one regional economic integration organization have ratified the Convention and that one hundred and forty-seven States and one regional economic integration organization have ratified the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention on Biological Diversity,[181]

Recognizing that the achievement of the three objectives of the Convention is important for sustainable development and poverty eradication and is a major factor underpinning the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Recalling the commitments of the World Summit on Sustainable Development to pursue a more efficient and coherent implementation of the three objectives of the Convention and the achievement by 2010 of a significant reduction in the current rate of loss of biological diversity, which will require action at all levels, including the implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans and the provision of new and additional financial and technical resources to developing countries,

Recognizing the continuing need for greater progress in the implementation of obligations and commitments under the Convention by States parties in order to achieve its objectives, and, in this regard, emphasizing the need to comprehensively address the obstacles that impede the full implementation of the Convention at the national, regional and global levels,

Reaffirming that the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources is one of the three objectives of the Convention,

Recalling, in this regard, the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[182] in which all States reaffirmed their engagement to fulfil commitments and significantly reduce the rate of loss of biodiversity by 2010 and continue ongoing efforts towards elaborating and negotiating an international regime on access to genetic resources and benefit-sharing,

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[179] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Rapporteur of the Committee.

[180] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

[181] Ibid., vol. 2226, No. 30619.

[182] See resolution 60/1.

Noting the need for enhanced cooperation among the Convention on Biological Diversity, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,[163] and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[164] (the "Rio Conventions"), while respecting their individual mandates, concerned by the negative impacts that loss of biodiversity, desertification, land degradation and climate change have on each other, and recognizing the potential benefits of complementarities in addressing these problems in a mutually supportive manner with a view to achieving the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity,

Acknowledging the contribution that the ongoing work of the Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore, of the World Intellectual Property Organization, can make in enhancing the effective implementation of the provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity,

Noting the important contribution that South-South cooperation can make in the area of biological diversity,

Recalling its resolution 63/219, in which it decided to convene, during its sixty-fifth session in 2010, as a contribution to the International Year of Biodiversity, a high-level meeting of the General Assembly, with the participation of Heads of State and Government,

Convinced that the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on biodiversity, to be convened at its sixty-fifth session in 2010, with the participation of Heads of State, Governments and delegations, as a contribution to the International Year of Biodiversity, provides a valuable opportunity to generate awareness at the highest level of the three objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity,

Taking note of the reports of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment,[165]

Noting the continuing efforts of the Life Web initiative promoted by the Government of Germany and other countries,

Noting also the initiative launched at the meeting of the environment ministers of the Group of Eight in Potsdam, Germany, in March 2007, to develop a study on the economic cost of the global loss of biodiversity,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity on the work of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention;[166]

2. *Urges* all Member States to fulfil their commitments to significantly reduce the rate of loss of biodiversity by 2010, and emphasizes that this will require an appropriate focus on the loss of biodiversity in their relevant policies and programmes and the continued provision of new and additional financial and technical resources to developing countries, including through the Global Environment Facility;

3. *Urges* the parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity[162] to facilitate the transfer of technology for the effective implementation of the Convention in accordance with its provisions, and in this regard takes note of the strategy for the practical implementation of the programme of work on technology transfer and scientific and technological cooperation developed by the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Technology Transfer and Scientific and Technological Cooperation,[167] as a preliminary basis for concrete activities by parties and international organizations;

4. *Takes note* of decision IX/12 of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, on access and benefit-sharing, and the annexes thereto,[168] by which the Conference established a road map for the negotiations set out in that decision and, *inter alia*:

(*a*) Reiterated its instruction to the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Access and Benefit-sharing to complete the elaboration and negotiation of the international access and benefit-sharing regime at the earliest possible time before the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, in accordance with decisions VII/19 D[169] and VIII/4 A;[170]

(*b*) Further instructed the Working Group to finalize the international regime and to submit for consideration and adoption by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention at its tenth meeting an instrument or instruments to effectively implement the provisions of articles 15 and 8 (*j*) of the Convention and its three objectives, without in any way prejudging or precluding any outcome regarding the nature of such instrument or instruments;

5. *Notes with appreciation*, in this regard, the progress made thus far in the Working Group, invites the Working Group to finalize the international regime, as instructed by the

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[163] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1954, No. 33480.

[164] Ibid., vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[165] Available from http://millenniumassessment.org.

[166] A/64/202, chap. III.

[167] UNEP/CBD/AHTEG-TTSTC/1/5, annex III.

[168] UNEP/CBD/COP/9/29, annex I.

[169] See UNEP/CBD/COP/7/21, annex.

[170] See UNEP/CBD/COP/8/31, annex.

Conference of the Parties, emphasizes the importance of the meeting of the Working Group to be held in March 2010, and in this regard also notes with appreciation the offer of Colombia to host the meeting;

6. *Underlines* the need to strengthen the science-policy interface for biodiversity, and in this regard notes the discussions on an intergovernmental platform on biodiversity and ecosystem services and the holding of the second ad hoc intergovernmental and multi-stakeholder meeting on an intergovernmental science-policy platform on biodiversity and ecosystem services, in Nairobi from 5 to 9 October 2009;

7. *Notes* the ongoing work of the Heads of Agencies Task Force on the 2010 Biodiversity Target, of the chairpersons of the scientific advisory bodies of the biodiversity-related conventions and of the Joint Liaison Group of the secretariats and offices of the relevant subsidiary bodies of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,[184] the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,[187] and the Convention on Biological Diversity, aimed at enhancing scientific and technical collaboration for achieving the 2010 biodiversity target;

8. *Encourages* the efforts being made to implement the seven thematic programmes of work, as established by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, as well as the ongoing work on cross-cutting issues;

9. *Encourages* all parties to the Convention to continue to contribute to the discussions leading to an updated strategic plan for the Convention to be adopted at the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, bearing in mind that this strategic plan should cover all three objectives of the Convention, and emphasizes that the revision of the strategic plan beyond 2010 is important for the enhanced implementation of the Convention;

10. *Notes* the progress made in developing a multi-year plan of action on biodiversity for development based on the framework for South-South cooperation;

11. *Reaffirms* the commitment, subject to national legislation, to respect, preserve and maintain the knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities embodying traditional lifestyles relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, promote their wider application with the approval and involvement of the holders of such knowledge, innovations and practices and encourage the equitable sharing of the benefits arising from their utilization;

12. *Notes* the adoption by the Conference of the Parties at its ninth meeting of a strategy for resource mobilization[191] in support of the achievement of the three objectives of the Convention, and, in accordance with Conference of the Parties decision IX/11 and the annexes thereto,[188] invites parties that have not yet done so to submit, to the secretariat of the Convention, views on concrete activities and initiatives, including measurable targets and/or indicators to achieve the strategic goals contained in the strategy, and on indicators to monitor its implementation;

13. *Takes note* of decision IX/20 of the Conference of the Parties on marine and coastal biodiversity, and the annexes thereto,[189] by which the Conference, inter alia, adopted a set of scientific criteria for identifying ecologically or biologically significant marine areas in need of protection, contained in annex I to the decision, and scientific guidance for designing representative networks of marine protected areas, contained in annex II;

14. *Stresses* the importance of private-sector engagement for the implementation of the three objectives of the Convention and in achieving biodiversity targets, and invites businesses to align their policies and practices more explicitly with the objectives of the Convention, including through partnerships;

15. *Notes* the development of the gender plan of action under the Convention, and invites parties to support the implementation of the plan by the Convention secretariat;

16. *Takes note* of decision IX/16 of the Conference of the Parties on biodiversity and climate change, and the annexes thereto,[190] by which the Conference, inter alia, established an Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Biodiversity and Climate Change with a mandate to develop scientific and technical advice on biodiversity insofar as it relates to climate change;

17. *Also takes note* of the report of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Biodiversity and Climate Change,[192] established by the Conference of the Parties in its decision IX/16 on biodiversity and climate change;

18. *Further takes note* of the ongoing work of the Joint Liaison Group of the secretariats and offices of the relevant subsidiary bodies of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, and the Convention on Biological Diversity, and further encourages continuing cooperation in order to promote complementarities among the secretariats while respecting their independent legal status;

19. *Encourages* developed countries parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity to contribute to the relevant

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[191] UNEP/CBD/COP/9/29, annex I, decision IX/11 B, annex.

[192] UNEP/CBD/AHTEG-TTSTC/1/5.

trust funds of the Convention so as to enhance the full participation of the developing countries parties in all of its activities;

20. *Invites* the countries that have not yet done so to ratify or accede to the Convention;

21. *Invites* parties to the Convention that have not yet ratified or acceded to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety[18] to consider doing so, reiterates the commitment of States parties to the Protocol to support its implementation, and stresses that this will require the full support of parties and of relevant international organizations, in particular with regard to the provision of assistance to developing countries in capacity-building for biosafety;

22. *Invites* countries to consider ratifying or acceding to the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture;[19]

23. *Decides*, in follow-up to its resolution 63/219, to convene the one-day high-level meeting as close as possible to the opening of the general debate of the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly, as a contribution to the International Year of Biodiversity, and in that regard:

(*a*) Encourages all Member States to be represented at the highest possible level, including by Heads of State or Government;

(*b*) Invites heads of the United Nations funds and programmes, the specialized agencies and regional commissions, as well as heads of intergovernmental organizations and entities having observer status in the General Assembly, as well as the biodiversity-related multilateral environmental agreements, to participate, as appropriate, in the meeting, in accordance with the rules and procedures established by the General Assembly;

(*c*) Decides that the President of the General Assembly will consult with representatives of non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, civil society organizations and the private sector, and with Member States, as appropriate, on the list of representatives of non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations and the private sector that may participate in the meeting;

(*d*) Decides that the meeting will be structured around an opening plenary meeting followed by thematic panels in the morning and the afternoon, organized within existing resources, which will address in a balanced manner the three objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity;

(*e*) Decides also that the meeting will be chaired by the President of the General Assembly and requests the President to prepare a summary of the discussions held during the high-level meeting, for presentation at the closing plenary and for transmission, under his authority, to the tenth session of the Conference of the Parties, to be held in Nagoya, Japan, in October 2010, as a contribution to raising awareness of the three objectives of the Convention;

(*f*) Requests the Secretary-General to prepare a background paper for the high-level meeting, in consultation with Member States;

24. *Encourages* all Member States, relevant regional and international organizations, major groups and other stakeholders to support, as appropriate, the International Year of Biodiversity in 2010, including through voluntary contributions, taking advantage of the Year to increase awareness of the importance of biodiversity for the achievement of sustainable development;

25. *Encourages* all relevant organs of the United Nations, including functional commissions and regional commissions, as well as all United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, to fully support, contribute to and participate in, as appropriate, the activities envisaged for the observance of 2010 as the International Year of Biodiversity, taking into consideration the strategy and implementation plan for the commemoration of the Year prepared by the secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, including through a special event or special focus in their annual governing body meetings or high-level ministerial segments and in their annual flagship publications scheduled for 2010;

26. *Recognizes* the importance of the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, to be held in Nagoya, Japan, from 11 to 15 October 2010, and the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, to be held in Nagoya from 18 to 29 October 2010;

27. *Invites* the secretariat of the Convention to report, through the Secretary-General, to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session on the work of the Conference of the Parties;

28. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include in his report to be submitted to the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session information on the implementation of resolution 61/203 and the parts of the present resolution relevant to the commemoration of 2010 as the International Year of Biodiversity;

29. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development", the sub-item entitled "Convention on Biological Diversity".

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[19] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, *Report of the Conference of FAO, Thirty-first Session, Rome, 2–13 November 2001* (C2001/REP), appendix D.

RESOLUTION 64/204

Adopted at the 66th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/420/Add.7, para. 8)[194]

64/204. Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its twenty-fifth session

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 2997 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972, 53/242 of 28 July 1999, 56/193 of 21 December 2001, 57/251 of 20 December 2002, 58/209 of 23 December 2003, 59/226 of 22 December 2004, 60/189 of 22 December 2005, 61/205 of 20 December 2006, 62/195 of 19 December 2007 and 63/220 of 19 December 2008,

Recalling also the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[195]

Taking into account Agenda 21[196] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),[197]

Reaffirming the role of the United Nations Environment Programme as the leading global environmental authority and principal body within the United Nations system in the field of environment, which should take into account, within its mandate, the sustainable development needs of developing countries,

Taking note of decision 25/4 of 20 February 2009 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme,[198] by which the Governing Council established a consultative group of ministers or high-level representatives, with the purpose of preparing a set of options for improving international environmental governance for the consideration of the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum at its eleventh special session, with a view to providing inputs to the General Assembly,

Taking note also of the developments in the area of global efforts in relation to chemicals management, including the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management, and the preparations for the negotiations on the global legally binding instrument on mercury,

Reiterating that capacity-building and technology support to developing countries in environment-related fields are important components of the work of the United Nations Environment Programme,

Taking note of the report of the United Nations Joint Inspection Unit entitled "Management review of environmental governance within the United Nations system",[199] and the note by the Secretary-General thereon,[200]

Taking note also of decision 25/10 of 20 February 2009 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on an intergovernmental science-policy platform on biodiversity and ecosystem services,[198]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its twenty-fifth session[201] and the decisions contained therein;[202]

2. *Welcomes* the ongoing efforts of the United Nations Environmental Programme, and encourages the further strengthening of efforts, to shift emphasis from delivery of outputs to achievement of results within its budget and programme of work, and in this regard takes note of the approval of the programme of work and the budget for the period 2010–2011;

3. *Underlines* the need to further advance and fully implement the Bali Strategic Plan for Technology Support and Capacity-building[203] with a view to achieving its objectives in the areas of capacity-building and technology support for developing countries and countries with economies in transition, and in this regard welcomes the decision to mainstream the Bali Strategic Plan as an integral part of the United Nations Environment Programme's medium-term strategy for the period 2010–2013, invites relevant United Nations funds and programmes and the specialized agencies and multilateral environmental agreements to consider mainstreaming the Bali Strategic Plan in their overall activities, and calls upon Governments and other stakeholders in a position to do so to provide the necessary funding and technical assistance to further advance and fully implement the Bali Strategic Plan;

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[194] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Rapporteur of the Committee.

[195] See resolution 60/1.

[196] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex II.

[197] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[198] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 25* (A/64/25), annex I.

[199] JIU/REP/2008/3.

[200] See A/64/83/Add.1-E/2009/83/Add.1.

[201] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 25* (A/64/25).

[202] Ibid., annex I.

[203] See UNEP/GC.23/6/Add.1 and Corr.1, annex.

4. *Requests* the United Nations Environment Programme to deepen its cooperation with related United Nations agencies, regions, subregions and existing South-South cooperation initiatives to develop joint activities and synergies of capacity in advancing South-South cooperation in support of capacity-building and technology support in the context of the Bali Strategic Plan and as reflected in the medium-term strategy for the period 2010–2013;

5. *Stresses* the importance of the implementation of the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management, particularly through its Quick Start Programme, and invites Governments, regional economic integration organizations, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations to engage actively and cooperate closely to support the Strategic Approach implementation activities of the United Nations Environment Programme, including by providing adequate resources;

6. *Takes note with appreciation* of the offer of the Government of Indonesia to host the eleventh special session of the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum from 24 to 26 February 2010 in Bali, Indonesia;

7. *Welcomes* the decision of the Conference of the Parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions to hold a simultaneous extraordinary session of the Conference of the Parties on 22 and 23 February 2010 in Bali immediately before the eleventh special session of the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum;

8. *Reaffirms* the need, while recognizing the efforts and actions taken, to strengthen the scientific base of the United Nations Environment Programme, as recommended by the intergovernmental consultation on strengthening the scientific base of the Programme, including the reinforcement of the scientific capacity of developing countries, in the area of protection of the environment, including through the provision of adequate financial resources, and in this respect emphasizes the importance of building on the experiences gained from the preparation of different global environmental assessments as well as other relevant developments in this field;

9. *Recognizes* the global challenges posed by mercury, and in this regard takes note of the decision of the Governing Council at its twenty-fifth session to convene an intergovernmental negotiating committee with the mandate to prepare a global legally binding instrument on mercury;[204]

10. *Reiterates* the need for the United Nations Environment Programme to continue to conduct comprehensive, integrated and scientifically credible global environment assessments, in close consultation with Member States, in order to support decision-making processes at all levels, in the light of the continuing need for up-to-date, scientifically credible, policy-relevant information on environmental change worldwide, and in this regard encourages the Programme to undertake a comprehensive integrated global assessment, leading to the preparation of the fifth report in the Global Environment Outlook series,[205] which should inform, as appropriate, the strategic directions of the Programme;

11. *Emphasizes* the need to further enhance coordination and cooperation among the relevant United Nations organizations in the promotion of the environmental dimension of sustainable development, and to enhance the cooperation between the United Nations Environment Programme and regional and subregional organizations, and welcomes the continued active participation of the Programme in the United Nations Development Group and the Environment Management Group, as well as in the United Nations "Delivering as One" exercise at the country level;

12. *Welcomes* the increased contributions to the Environment Fund, and reiterates its invitation to Governments that are in a position to do so to increase their contributions to the Environment Fund;

13. *Reiterates* the need for stable, adequate and predictable financial resources for the United Nations Environment Programme, and, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 2997 (XXVII), underlines the need to consider the adequate reflection of all the administrative and management costs of the Programme in the context of the United Nations regular budget;

14. *Also reiterates* the importance of the Nairobi headquarters location of the United Nations Environment Programme, and requests the Secretary-General to keep the resource needs of the Programme and the United Nations Office at Nairobi under review so as to permit the delivery, in an effective manner, of necessary services to the Programme and to the other United Nations organs and organizations in Nairobi;

15. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development", a sub-item entitled "Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its eleventh special session".

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[204] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 25* (A/64/25), annex I, decision 25/5.

[205] Ibid., decision 25/2.

RESOLUTION 64/205

Adopted at the 66th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/420/Add.8, para. 7)[206]

64/205. Sustainable mountain development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 53/24 of 10 November 1998, by which it proclaimed 2002 the International Year of Mountains,

Recalling also its resolutions 55/189 of 20 December 2000, 57/245 of 20 December 2002, 58/216 of 23 December 2003, 59/238 of 22 December 2004, 60/198 of 22 December 2005 and 62/196 of 19 December 2007,

Reaffirming chapter 13 of Agenda 21[207] and all relevant paragraphs of the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),[208] in particular paragraph 42 thereof, as the overall policy frameworks for sustainable development in mountain regions,

Noting the Bishkek Mountain Platform,[209] the outcome document of the Bishkek Global Mountain Summit, held in Bishkek from 28 October to 1 November 2002, which was the concluding event of the International Year of Mountains,

Noting also the International Partnership for Sustainable Development in Mountain Regions ("Mountain Partnership"), launched during the World Summit on Sustainable Development, with benefits from the committed support of fifty countries, sixteen intergovernmental organizations and ninety-six organizations from major groups, as an important multi-stakeholder approach to addressing the various interrelated dimensions of sustainable development in mountain regions,

Noting further the conclusions of the global meetings of the members of the Mountain Partnership, held, respectively, in Merano, Italy, in October 2003 and in Cusco, Peru, in October 2004, and the first Andean Meeting of the Andean Initiative, held in San Miguel Tucuman, Argentina, in September 2007,

Noting the outcome of the meeting of the Adelboden Group on Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development in Mountain Regions, which met in Rome from 1 to 3 October 2007,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[210]

2. *Notes with appreciation* that a growing network of Governments, organizations, major groups and individuals around the world recognize the importance of the sustainable development of mountain regions for poverty eradication, and recognizes the global importance of mountains as the source of most of the Earth's freshwater, as repositories of rich biological diversity and other natural resources, including timber and minerals, as providers of some sources of renewable energy, as popular destinations for recreation and tourism and as areas of important cultural diversity, knowledge and heritage, all of which generate positive, unaccounted economic benefits;

3. *Recognizes* that mountains provide sensitive indications of climate change through phenomena such as modifications of biological diversity, the retreat of mountain glaciers and changes in seasonal runoff that are having an impact on major sources of freshwater in the world, and stresses the need to undertake actions to minimize the negative effects of these phenomena and promote adaptation measures;

4. *Also recognizes* that sustainable mountain development is a key component in achieving the Millennium Development Goals in many regions of the world;

5. *Encourages* greater consideration of sustainable mountain development issues in intergovernmental discussions on climate change, biodiversity loss and combating desertification in the context of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,[211] the Convention on Biological Diversity,[212] the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa[213] and the United Nations Forum on Forests;

6. *Notes with concern* that there remain key challenges to achieving sustainable development, eradicating poverty in mountain regions and protecting mountain ecosystems, and that populations in mountain regions are frequently among the poorest in a given country;

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[206] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, France, Germany, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Indonesia, Israel, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Madagascar, Malawi, Mexico, Montenegro, Nepal, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Romania, Rwanda, Serbia, Seychelles, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Ukraine, United Republic of Tanzania and Viet Nam.

[207] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex II.

[208] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[209] A/C.2/57/7, annex.

[210] A/64/222.

[211] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[212] Ibid., vol. 1760, No. 30619.

[213] Ibid., vol. 1954, No. 33480.

7. *Encourages* Governments to adopt a long-term vision and holistic approaches in their sustainable development strategies, and to promote integrated approaches to policies related to sustainable development in mountain regions;

8. *Also encourages* Governments to integrate mountain sustainable development in national, regional and global policymaking and development strategies, including through incorporating mountain-specific requirements in sustainable development policies or through specific mountain policies;

9. *Notes* that the growing demand for natural resources, including water, the consequences of erosion, deforestation and watershed degradation, the frequency and scale of natural disasters, as well as increasing out-migration, the pressures of industry, transport, tourism, mining and agriculture and the consequences of climate change and loss of biodiversity are some of the key challenges in fragile mountain ecosystems to implementing sustainable development and eradicating poverty in mountain regions, consistent with the Millennium Development Goals;

10. *Underlines* the importance of sustainable forest management, the avoidance of deforestation and the restoration of lost and degraded forest ecosystems of mountains in order to enhance the role of mountains as natural carbon and water regulators;

11. *Notes* that sustainable agriculture in mountain regions is important for the protection of the mountain environment and the promotion of the regional economy;

12. *Expresses its deep concern* at the number and scale of natural disasters and their increasing impact in recent years, which have resulted in massive loss of life and long-term negative social, economic and environmental consequences for vulnerable societies throughout the world, in particular in mountain regions, especially those in developing countries, and urges the international community to take concrete steps to support national and regional efforts to ensure the sustainable development of mountains;

13. *Encourages* Governments, the international community and other relevant stakeholders to improve the awareness, preparedness and infrastructure to reduce risks of disasters and to cope with the increasing adverse impact of disasters in mountain regions, such as flash floods, including glacial lake outburst floods, as well as landslides, debris flow and earthquakes and, in this regard, to take advantage of opportunities provided by International Mountain Day on 11 December 2009, which is dedicated to disaster risk management;

14. *Calls upon* Governments, with the collaboration of the scientific community, mountain communities and intergovernmental organizations, where appropriate, to study, with a view to promoting sustainable mountain development, the specific concerns of mountain communities, including the adverse impact of climate change on mountain environments and biological diversity, in order to elaborate sustainable adaptation strategies and subsequently implement adequate measures to cope with the adverse effects of climate change;

15. *Underlines* the fact that action at the national level is a key factor in achieving progress in sustainable mountain development, welcomes its steady increase in recent years with a multitude of events, activities and initiatives, and invites the international community to support the efforts of developing countries to develop and implement strategies and programmes, including, where required, enabling policies and laws for the sustainable development of mountains, within the framework of national development plans;

16. *Encourages* the further establishment of committees or similar multi-stakeholder institutional arrangements and mechanisms at the national and regional levels, where appropriate, to enhance intersectoral coordination and collaboration for sustainable development in mountain regions;

17. *Also encourages* the increased involvement of local authorities, as well as other relevant stakeholders, in particular the rural population, indigenous peoples, civil society and the private sector, in the development and implementation of programmes, land-use planning and land tenure arrangements and activities related to sustainable development in mountains;

18. *Underlines* the need for improved access to resources, including land, for women in mountain regions, as well as the need to strengthen the role of women in mountain regions in decision-making processes that affect their communities, cultures and environments;

19. *Encourages* Governments and intergovernmental organizations to integrate the gender dimension, including gender-disaggregated indicators, in mountain development activities, programmes and projects;

20. *Stresses* that indigenous cultures, traditions and knowledge, including in the field of medicine, are to be fully considered, respected and promoted in development policy and planning in mountain regions, and underlines the importance of promoting the full participation and involvement of mountain communities in decisions that affect them and of integrating indigenous knowledge, heritage and values in all development initiatives;

21. *Underscores* the need to take into account relevant articles of the Convention on Biological Diversity;[212]

22. *Recalls with satisfaction* the adoption by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity of a programme of work on mountain biological diversity,[214] the overall purpose of which is a significant

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[214] UNEP/CBD/COP/7/21, annex, decision VII/27, annex.

reduction in the loss of mountain biological diversity by 2010 at the global, regional and national levels, and its implementation, which aims at making a significant contribution to poverty eradication in mountain regions;

23. *Invites* States and other stakeholders to strengthen implementation of the programme of work on mountain biological diversity through renewed political commitment and the establishment of appropriate multi-stakeholder institutional arrangements and mechanisms, and in this regard notes with satisfaction the collaboration established between the secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Mountain Partnership and the Mountain Forum to mobilize concerned Governments and other stakeholders for more effective cooperation and to assist in building capacity for implementation of the programme of work;

24. *Recognizes* that many developing countries, as well as countries with economies in transition, need to be assisted in the formulation and implementation of national strategies and programmes for sustainable mountain development, through bilateral, multilateral and South-South cooperation, as well as through other collaborative approaches;

25. *Emphasizes* the importance of exchange of best practices, information and appropriate environmentally sound technologies for sustainable mountain development, and encourages Member States and relevant organizations in this regard;

26. *Notes* that funding for sustainable mountain development has become increasingly important, especially in view of the greater recognition of the global importance of mountains and the high level of extreme poverty, food insecurity and hardship mountain communities face;

27. *Invites* Governments, the United Nations system, the international financial institutions, the Global Environment Facility, all relevant United Nations conventions and their funding mechanisms, within their respective mandates, and all relevant stakeholders from civil society and the private sector to consider providing support, including through voluntary financial contributions, to local, national and international programmes and projects for sustainable development in mountain regions, particularly in developing countries;

28. *Underlines* the importance for sustainable mountain development of exploring a wide range of funding sources, such as public-private partnerships, increased opportunities for microfinance, including microcredit and microinsurance, small housing loans, savings, education and health accounts, and support for entrepreneurs seeking to develop small- and medium-sized businesses and, where appropriate, on a case-by-case basis, debt for sustainable development swaps;

29. *Encourages* the further development of sustainable agricultural value chains and the improvement of access to and participation in markets for mountain farmers and agro-industry enterprises, with a view to substantially increasing the income of farmers, in particular smallholders and family farmers;

30. *Welcomes* the growing contribution of sustainable tourism initiatives in mountain regions as a way to enhance environmental protection and socio-economic benefits to local communities and the fact that consumer demand is increasingly moving towards responsible and sustainable tourism;

31. *Notes* that public awareness needs to be raised with respect to the positive and unaccounted economic benefits that mountains provide not only to highland communities, but also to a large portion of the world's population living in lowland areas, and underlines the importance of enhancing the sustainability of ecosystems that provide essential resources and services for human well-being and economic activity and of developing innovative means of financing for their protection;

32. *Recognizes* that mountain ranges are usually shared among several countries, and in this context encourages transboundary cooperation approaches, where the States concerned agree, to the sustainable development of mountain ranges and information-sharing in this regard;

33. *Notes with appreciation*, in this context, that the Convention on the Protection of the Alps[215] promotes constructive new approaches to the integrated, sustainable development of the Alps, including through its thematic protocols on spatial planning, mountain farming, conservation of nature and landscape, mountain forests, tourism, soil protection, energy and transport, as well as the Declaration on Population and Culture,[216] the Action Plan on Climate Change in the Alps,[217] cooperation with other convention bodies on relevant subjects and activities in the context of the Mountain Partnership;

34. *Also notes with appreciation* the Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians,[218] adopted and signed by the seven countries of the region to provide a framework for cooperation and multisectoral policy coordination, a platform for joint strategies for sustainable development and a forum for dialogue between all involved stakeholders;

35. *Further notes with appreciation* the work of the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development, which promotes transboundary cooperation among eight country members of the Himalaya Hindu Kush to foster action and change for overcoming the economic, social and physical vulnerability of mountain peoples;

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[215] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1917, No. 32724.

[216] Available from www.alpconv.org/theconvention/index_en.

[217] Available from www.alpconv.org/climate/index_en.

[218] Available from www.carpathianconvention.org/text.

36. *Notes with appreciation* the contribution of the Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development in Mountain Regions project of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the statement of the Adelboden Group in promoting specific policies, appropriate institutions and processes for mountain regions and the positive, unaccounted economic benefits they provide;

37. *Stresses* the importance of building capacity, strengthening institutions and promoting educational programmes in order to foster sustainable mountain development at all levels and to enhance awareness of challenges to and best practices in sustainable development in mountain regions and in the nature of relationships between highland and lowland areas;

38. *Underlines* the importance of higher education in and for mountain areas in order to expand opportunities and encourage the retention of skilled people, including youth, in mountain areas, recognizes, in this context, recent and important initiatives at the regional level, such as the creation of three university campuses, in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan, and the creation of the Himalayan University Consortium, and encourages similar efforts in other mountain regions around the world;

39. *Encourages* the development and implementation of global, regional and national communication programmes to build on the awareness and momentum for change created by the International Year of Mountains in 2002 and the opportunity provided annually by International Mountain Day on 11 December;

40. *Encourages* Member States to collect and produce information and to establish monitoring systems on biophysical and socio-economic data devoted to mountains so as to capitalize on knowledge to support interdisciplinary research programmes and projects and to improve decision-making and planning;

41. *Encourages* all relevant entities of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates, to further enhance their constructive efforts to strengthen inter-agency collaboration to achieve more effective implementation of the relevant chapters of Agenda 21,[207] including chapter 13, and paragraph 42 and other relevant paragraphs of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation,[208] taking into account the efforts of the Inter-Agency Group on Mountains and the need for the further involvement of the United Nations system, in particular the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations University, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the United Nations Children's Fund, as well as international financial institutions and other relevant international organizations;

42. *Recognizes* the efforts of the Mountain Partnership implemented in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 2003/61 of 25 July 2003, invites the international community and other relevant stakeholders, including civil society and the private sector, to consider participating actively in the Mountain Partnership to increase its value, and invites the Partnership secretariat to report on its activities and achievements to the Commission on Sustainable Development at its eighteenth session, in 2010, including in regard to the thematic issues of transport, chemicals, waste management, mining and a ten-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production patterns;

43. *Notes with appreciation*, in this context, the efforts of the Mountain Partnership to cooperate with existing multilateral instruments relevant to mountains, such as the Convention on Biological Diversity,[212] the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,[213] the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,[214] the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction and mountain-related regional instruments such as the Convention on the Protection of the Alps[215] and the Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians;[216]

44. *Also notes with appreciation* the ongoing efforts to improve strategic cooperation among the institutions and initiatives dealing with mountain development, such as the Mountain Forum, the Mountain Partnership, the Mountain Research Initiative and the International Mountain Society;

45. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution under the sub-item entitled "Sustainable mountain development" of the item entitled "Sustainable development".

RESOLUTION 64/206

Adopted at the 66th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/420/Add.9, para. 9)[219]

64/206. Promotion of new and renewable sources of energy

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 53/7 of 16 October 1998, 54/215 of 22 December 1999 and 55/205 of 20 December 2000, and recalling also its resolutions 56/200 of 21 December 2001,

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[219] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Rapporteur of the Committee.

58/210 of 23 December 2003, 60/199 of 22 December 2005 and 62/197 of 19 December 2007 on the promotion of new and renewable sources of energy,

Recalling also the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[220]

Reiterating the principles of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development[221] and of Agenda 21,[222] and recalling the recommendations and conclusions contained in the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation")[223] concerning energy for sustainable development,

Recalling with appreciation the Interactive Thematic Dialogue of the General Assembly on "Energy efficiency, energy conservation and new and renewable sources of energy" held on 18 June 2009 and its contribution to the intergovernmental dialogue on energy issues,

Welcoming the political impetus recently given to the development of new and renewable sources of energy worldwide, including in particular in developing countries and in countries with economies in transition,

Welcoming also the offer of the Government of India to host the Delhi International Renewable Energy Conference from 27 to 29 October 2010,

Welcoming further initiatives that aim to improve access to reliable, affordable, economically viable, socially acceptable and environmentally sound energy services for sustainable development in order to contribute to the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Recognizing that the development of new and renewable sources of energy plays a significant role in the diversification of the energy mix, achieving greater energy efficiency, supporting and accelerating economic growth and social development, creating employment opportunities, ensuring energy access and availability, promoting energy cooperation and rendering environmental benefits, thus contributing to achieving sustainable development and the Millennium Development Goals,

Emphasizing that the increased use and promotion of new and renewable sources of energy for sustainable development, including solar-thermal, photovoltaic, biomass, wind, hydro, tidal, ocean and geothermal forms, could make a significant contribution towards the achievement of sustainable development and the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Acknowledging that increased use of new and renewable sources of energy could offer increased access to modern energy services,

Noting that, in addition to increasing the efficiency of energy production and use, expanding the use of new and renewable sources of energy and advanced clean energy technology offers options that could improve global and local environmental conditions,

Recognizing that the current share of new and renewable sources of energy in the global energy supply is still low, which is due, among other factors, to the high costs of many renewable energy technologies, particularly in their development phase, and underlining the critical contribution that a rapid reduction in those costs could make to the promotion of such technologies,

Recognizing also the contributions of new and renewable sources of energy to the reduction of greenhouse gases and addressing climate change, which poses serious risks and challenges,

Noting that the global demand for energy continues to rise, while recognizing that the share of energy derived from new and renewable resources remains considerably below its significant potential despite a recent increase, and underlining in this regard the need to continue to tap new and renewable sources of energy,

Emphasizing the need to take further action to mobilize the provision of adequate financial resources, of sufficient quality and arriving in a timely manner, as well as the transfer of advanced technology to developing countries and countries with economies in transition for providing efficient and wider use of energy sources, in particular new and renewable sources of energy,

Reaffirming that each country must take primary responsibility for its own development and that the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized in the achievement of sustainable development, and recognizing the need for the creation of an enabling environment at all levels for investment and sustained financing,

Acknowledging that the Commission on Sustainable Development and the Economic and Social Council continue to play a pivotal role as forums for the discussion of new and renewable sources of energy and sustainable development,

Welcoming efforts by Governments and institutions that have embarked on policies and programmes that seek to expand the use of new and renewable sources of energy for sustainable development, and recognizing the contributions of regional initiatives, institutions and regional economic commissions in supporting the efforts of countries, in particular developing countries and countries with economies in transition, in this respect,

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[220] See resolution 60/1.

[221] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[222] Ibid., annex II.

[223] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

Noting with appreciation the establishment of the International Renewable Energy Agency, which aims at promoting the diffusion and sustainable use of all forms of renewable energy,

Noting also with appreciation regional mechanisms and initiatives for energy cooperation and integration to encourage the use of new and renewable sources of energy such as, inter alia, the PetroCaribe Alternative Energy Source Financing Fund, the Mesoamerican integration and development project, the Caribbean Renewable Energy Development Programme, the energy initiative of the New Partnership for Africa's Development, the Mediterranean Solar Plan, the Africa-European Union Energy Partnership, the Baltic Sea Region Energy Cooperation, and the Asia-Pacific Partnership on Clean Development and Climate,

Noting with concern that millions of poor people are unable to afford to pay for modern energy services, even when those services are available, and emphasizing the need to address the challenge of access to and affordability of modern energy services for all, in particular the poor,

Emphasizing the need to promote an enabling environment for the promotion and use of new and renewable energy, including through the removal of obstacles at all levels,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[224]

2. *Stresses* the urgent need to continue to increase the share of new and renewable sources of energy in the global energy mix;

3. *Reaffirms* the need for the full implementation of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation,[223] as the intergovernmental framework for sustainable development;

4. *Emphasizes* the need to improve access to reliable, affordable, economically viable, socially acceptable and environmentally sound energy services and resources for sustainable development, and takes into consideration the diversity of situations, national policies and specific needs of developing countries and countries with economies in transition;

5. *Encourages* the development of viable market-oriented strategies that could result in the most rapid reduction of the cost of new and renewable sources of energy and increase the competitiveness of those technologies, including through the adoption, as appropriate, of public policies for research, development and market deployment;

6. *Emphasizes* the need to intensify research and development in support of energy for sustainable development, which will require increased commitment on the part of Governments and all other relevant stakeholders, as appropriate, including the private sector, civil society and international organizations, to deploy financial and human resources for accelerating research efforts;

7. *Encourages* efforts by Governments aimed at creating and developing an enabling environment at all levels to ensure the promotion and use of new and renewable sources of energy;

8. *Calls upon* Governments, as well as relevant international and regional organizations and other relevant stakeholders, to combine, as appropriate, the increased use of new and renewable energy resources, more efficient use of energy, greater reliance on advanced energy technologies, including cleaner fossil fuel technologies, and the sustainable use of traditional energy resources, which could meet the growing need for energy services in the longer term to achieve sustainable development;

9. *Encourages* global, regional and national initiatives on new and renewable energies to promote access to energy, including new and renewable sources of energy, for the poorest and to improve energy efficiency and conservation by resorting to a mix of available technologies, taking fully into account the provisions of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation concerning energy for sustainable development;

10. *Welcomes* the efforts of some Member States to establish national voluntary new and renewable sources of energy and energy efficiency targets, and encourages others to do the same;

11. *Encourages* Member States to make greater use of effective policy tools such as voluntary national, subnational or regional goals, programmes and targets, as appropriate, to increase access to energy, energy efficiency and the share of renewable energies;

12. *Calls upon* Governments to take further action to mobilize the provision of financial resources, technology transfer, capacity-building and the diffusion of environmentally sound technologies to developing countries and countries with economies in transition, as set out in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;

13. *Calls upon* the international community to support the efforts of the African countries in promoting the development, production and use of new and renewable sources of energy, recognizing the special needs of Africa for reliable and affordable energy supplies and services;

14. *Also calls upon* the international community to support the least developed countries, the landlocked developing countries and the small island developing States in their efforts to develop and utilize new and renewable energy,

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[224] A/64/277.

inter alia, through financial and technical assistance and capacity-building;

15. *Reiterates its call for* all relevant funding institutions and bilateral and multilateral donors, as well as regional funding institutions and non-governmental organizations, to continue to support, as appropriate, efforts aimed at the development of the energy sector in developing countries and countries with economies in transition on the basis of environment-friendly new and renewable sources of energy of demonstrated viability, while taking fully into account the development structure of energy-based economies of developing countries, and to assist in the attainment of the levels of investment necessary to expand energy supplies, including beyond urban areas;

16. *Notes and encourages* ongoing activities related to the promotion of new and renewable sources of energy within the United Nations system, and acknowledges the role of UN-Energy in promoting system-wide collaboration in the area of energy;

17. *Encourages* the United Nations system to continue to raise awareness of the importance of energy for sustainable development, including the need for the promotion of new and renewable sources of energy and the increased role they can play in the global energy supply, particularly in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication;

18. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to promote the mobilization of financial resources, in a stable and predictable manner, and technical assistance, and to enhance the effectiveness and the full utilization of existing international funds for the effective implementation of national and regional high-priority projects in the area of new and renewable sources of energy;

19. *Stresses* that the wider use and exploration of available and additional new and renewable sources of energy require technology transfer and diffusion on a global scale, including through North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, taking into account, inter alia, the initiatives taken by Member States and international organizations to create an enabling environment at all levels for the promotion and use of new and renewable energy, including measures to improve access to such technologies;

21. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-sixth session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development", the sub-item entitled "Promotion of new and renewable sources of energy".

RESOLUTION 64/207

Adopted at the 66th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/421, para. 12)[225]

64/207. Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 3327 (XXIX) of 16 December 1974, 32/162 of 19 December 1977, 34/115 of 14 December 1979, 56/205 and 56/206 of 21 December 2001, 57/275 of 20 December 2002, 58/226 and 58/227 of 23 December 2003, 59/239 of 22 December 2004, 60/203 of 22 December 2005, 61/206 of 20 December 2006, 62/198 of 19 December 2007 and 63/221 of 19 December 2008,

Taking note of Economic and Social Council resolutions 2002/38 of 26 July 2002 and 2003/62 of 25 July 2003 and Council decisions 2004/300 of 23 July 2004, 2005/298 of 26 July 2005, 2006/247 of 27 July 2006, 2007/249 of 26 July 2007, 2008/239 of 23 July 2008 and 2009/238 of 29 July 2009,

Recalling the goal contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration[226] of achieving a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum-dwellers by 2020 and the goal contained in the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation")[227] to halve, by 2015, the proportion of people who lack access to safe drinking water and sanitation,

Recalling also the Habitat Agenda,[228] the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium,[229] the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation and the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,[230]

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[225] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Rapporteur of the Committee.

[226] See resolution 55/2.

[227] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[228] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), Istanbul, 3–14 June 1996* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.IV.6), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[229] Resolution S-25/2, annex.

[230] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

Recalling further the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[231] which calls upon the States Members of the United Nations to achieve a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum-dwellers by 2020, recognizing the urgent need for the provision of increased resources for affordable housing and housing-related infrastructure, prioritizing slum prevention and slum upgrading, and to encourage support for the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation and its Slum Upgrading Facility,

Recognizing the negative impact of environmental degradation, including climate change, desertification and loss of biodiversity, on human settlements,

Recognizing also that the current financial crisis could negatively affect the ability of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) to mobilize resources and promote the use of incentives and market measures as well as the mobilization of domestic and international financial resources for supporting private sector investment in affordable housing,

Welcoming with appreciation the important contribution of UN-Habitat, within its mandate, to more cost-effective transitions between emergency relief, recovery and reconstruction, and also the decision to admit UN-Habitat to the Inter-Agency Standing Committee,

Recognizing the significance of the urban dimension of poverty eradication and the need to integrate water and sanitation and other issues within a comprehensive framework for sustainable development,

Recognizing also the importance of decentralization policies for achieving sustainable human settlements development in line with the Habitat Agenda and the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Welcoming the progress being made by UN-Habitat in the implementation of its medium-term strategic and institutional plan for the period 2008–2013 and its efforts, as a non-resident agency, in helping programme countries to mainstream the Habitat Agenda into their respective development frameworks,

Noting the request of the Governing Council of UN-Habitat in its resolution 22/5 of 3 April 2009[232] for a joint examination of the governance of UN-Habitat with a view to identifying and implementing ways to improve the transparency, accountability, efficiency and effectiveness of the functioning of the existing governance structure and to identify options for any other potential relevant changes for consideration by the Governing Council at its twenty-third session and for the Executive Director to begin work on terms of reference for this exercise,

Noting also the efforts of UN-Habitat in strengthening its collaboration with international and regional development banks and domestic financial institutions to combine public and private capital with capacity-building and policy reform activities in order to improve access by the poor to water and sanitation and affordable housing finance in support of the attainment of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Welcoming the offer of the Government of Brazil and the city of Rio de Janeiro to host the fifth session of the World Urban Forum from 22 to 26 March 2010,

Reaffirming the increased importance of South-South and triangular cooperation in helping developing countries to develop capacities in order to achieve their national goals, including those related to sustainable human settlements and urban development,

Recalling its invitation to the Governing Council of UN-Habitat to keep developments in housing finance systems under review in view of the current global economic and financial crisis, and its decision to explore the possibility of convening a high-level event of the General Assembly on the subject, and acknowledging the efforts of the Governing Council at its twenty-second session in this regard,

Recognizing the continued need for increased and predictable financial contributions to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation to ensure timely, effective and concrete global implementation of the Habitat Agenda, the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium and the relevant internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration and the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[233] and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation,

Recognizing also the progress being made by UN-Habitat in the development of the Experimental Reimbursable Seeding Operations Trust Fund of the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation, established by the Governing Council of UN-Habitat in its resolution 21/10 of 20 April 2007,[234]

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[231] See resolution 60/1.

[232] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 8* (A/64/8), annex I, sect. B.

[233] *Report on the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[234] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 8* (A/62/8), annex I, sect. B.

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the coordinated implementation of the Habitat Agenda[235] and the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat);[236]

2. *Welcomes* the efforts of UN-Habitat in the continued implementation of its medium-term strategic and institutional plan for the period 2008–2013, and encourages Governments in a position to do so, and other stakeholders, to contribute to UN-Habitat so as to further strengthen its efforts in institutional reform and the pursuit of management excellence, including results-based management;

3. *Stresses* the need for Member States, taking into consideration, inter alia, the current global crisis, to assess the adequacy of their respective housing and related infrastructure policies to meet the needs of their growing urban populations and, in particular, the needs of the poor and other vulnerable groups, and requests UN-Habitat to assist Governments upon request in this regard;

4. *Encourages* Governments to promote the principles and practice of sustainable urbanization and strengthen the role and contribution of their respective local authorities in applying those principles and practices, in order to, inter alia, ensure access to basic services for all and improve the living conditions of vulnerable urban populations, slum-dwellers and the urban poor, and, as a major contribution to mitigating the causes of climate change, adapting to the effects of climate change and reducing risks and vulnerabilities in a rapidly urbanizing world, including human settlements in fragile ecosystems, and invites the international donor community to support the efforts of developing countries in this regard;

5. *Stresses* the need for the international community to support South-South cooperation, including through triangular cooperation, especially by mobilizing financial resources on a sustainable basis, providing technical assistance and encouraging city-to-city cooperation;

6. *Reiterates its call for* continued financial support to UN-Habitat through increased voluntary contributions, and invites Governments in a position to do so, and other stakeholders, to provide predictable multi-year funding and increased non-earmarked contributions to support the strategic and institutional objectives of the medium-term strategic and institutional plan for the period 2008–2013 and its Global Campaign on Sustainable Urbanization;

7. *Stresses* that the affordability of housing has become a major issue that needs to be addressed by mobilizing resources for the poor and other vulnerable groups;

8. *Invites* the international donor community and financial institutions to contribute generously to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation, including the Water and Sanitation Trust Fund, the Slum Upgrading Facility and the technical cooperation trust funds to enable UN-Habitat to assist developing countries in mobilizing public investment and private capital for slum upgrading, shelter and basic services;

9. *Acknowledges* the progress made in the implementation of the pilot programmes of the Experimental Reimbursable Seeding Operations Trust Fund of the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation, and in this regard invites the international donor community and financial institutions to contribute to the Trust Fund;

10. *Encourages* UN-Habitat to continue exploring the possibility of convening a high-level special event of the General Assembly on sustainable urbanization to promote understanding of the challenges of rapid urbanization, including climate change, housing finance systems, urban planning and sustainable land management;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to keep the resource needs of UN-Habitat under review so as to enhance its effectiveness in supporting national policies, strategies and plans for attaining the poverty eradication, gender equality, water and sanitation and slum upgrading targets of the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[226] the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation[227] and the 2005 World Summit Outcome;[231]

12. *Reiterates its encouragement* to the Economic and Social Council to include sustainable urbanization, urban poverty reduction and slum upgrading as a cross-cutting issue in the follow-up to the outcome of relevant summits and major international conferences;

13. *Emphasizes* the importance of the Nairobi headquarters location of UN-Habitat, and requests the Secretary-General to keep the resource needs of UN-Habitat and the United Nations Office at Nairobi under review so as to permit the delivery, in an effective manner, of necessary services to UN-Habitat and the other United Nations organs and organizations in Nairobi;

14. *Takes note* of the recommendation made by the Governing Council of UN-Habitat in its resolution 22/1 of 3 April 2009[232] and, having considered the question of convening in 2016 a third United Nations conference on housing and sustainable urban development (Habitat III), requests the Secretary-General to prepare a report on this question, in collaboration with the Governing Council, for consideration by the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session;

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[235] See E/2009/80, transmitted by the note by the Secretary-General in document A/64/317.

[236] A/64/260.

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

16. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled "Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)".

RESOLUTION 64/208

Adopted at the 66th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/422/Add.1, para. 21)[237]

64/208. Development cooperation with middle-income countries

The General Assembly,

Recalling the outcomes of the United Nations major international conferences and summits, including the United Nations Millennium Declaration[238] and the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[239] as well as the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolutions,

Reaffirming its resolution 62/208 of 19 December 2007, entitled "Triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system", in which it recognized that middle-income developing countries still face significant challenges in the area of poverty eradication and that efforts to address those challenges should be supported in order to ensure that achievements made to date are sustained, including through support to the effective development of comprehensive cooperation policies,

Recalling its resolution 63/223 of 19 December 2008,

Emphasizing that middle-income countries must take primary responsibility for their own development, and that their national efforts should be complemented by supportive global programmes, measures and policies aimed at expanding the development opportunities of middle-income countries, while taking into account their specific national conditions,

Noting that national averages based on criteria such as per capita income do not always reflect the actual particularities and development needs of middle-income countries, and recognizing the significant diversity of middle-income countries,

Recognizing that, despite the achievements and efforts of middle-income countries, a significant number of people are still living in poverty and inequalities remain, and that further investment in social services and economic opportunities are needed in order to reduce those inequalities,

Recognizing also the actions that middle-income countries have taken to address their particular challenges and the needs of their people, and recognizing the need for further international efforts to support middle-income countries in this regard,

Acknowledging the negative effects of the current global financial and economic crisis on the development efforts of middle-income countries, which are vulnerable to external shocks,

Expressing concern that some middle-income countries are highly indebted and face increased challenges to their long-term debt sustainability,

Recognizing that climate change is one of the challenges to the sustainable development of middle-income countries,

Taking note of the outcomes of the international conferences on development cooperation with middle-income countries held in Madrid,[240] El Salvador[241] and Windhoek,[242] and the regional conference on the theme "Increasing the competitiveness of African middle-income countries", held in Cairo,[243]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[244]

2. *Recognizes* that middle-income countries still face significant challenges in their efforts to achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and in that regard underlines the importance of international support, through various forms, that is well aligned with national priorities to address the development needs of middle-income countries;

3. *Acknowledges* the efforts made and successes achieved by many middle-income countries to eradicate poverty and achieve the internationally agreed development

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[237] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee.

[238] See resolution 55/2.

[239] See resolution 60/1.

[240] See A/62/71-E/2007/46, annex.

[241] See A/62/483-E/2007/90, annex.

[242] See A/C.2/63/3, annexes I and II.

[243] Held on 11 and 12 March 2008 to discuss how the World Bank and the African Development Bank could better align their services to the needs of the middle-income countries in Africa.

[244] A/64/253.

goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, as well as their significant contribution to global and regional development and economic stability;

4. *Also acknowledges* that good governance and the rule of law at the national and international levels are essential for sustained economic growth, sustainable development and the eradication of poverty and hunger;

5. *Recognizes* the solidarity of middle-income countries with other developing countries with a view to supporting their development efforts, including in the context of South-South and triangular cooperation;

6. *Invites* the United Nations development system, in particular the funds and programmes, and at the regional level, in accordance with their respective mandates, to improve support, as appropriate, to middle-income countries and to improve coordination and exchange of experiences with other international organizations, international financial institutions and regional organizations in this field as well as to align the programming of its activities more closely with national development strategies while targeting specific existing and emerging needs of middle-income countries;

7. *Invites* the international community, including international financial institutions, to further strengthen their support to the development efforts of middle-income countries through targeted technical assistance, provision of resources, technology transfer and capacity-building, as appropriate, while taking into account their national priorities and development policies;

8. *Acknowledges* that official development assistance is still essential for a number of middle-income countries and that it has a role to play in targeted areas, taking into account the needs and domestic resources of these countries;

9. *Calls upon* the international community to continue to further undertake timely, appropriate and targeted measures to address the new and additional challenges that the current economic and financial crisis has imposed on middle-income countries, on a case-by-case basis, based on the specific needs and national priorities of each of those countries;

10. *Underlines* the need for sustained efforts towards achieving debt sustainability in middle-income countries in order to avoid a debt crisis, and to that end notes and encourages further efforts by international financial institutions to enhance facilities for them;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, and decides to include in its provisional agenda, under the item entitled "Globalization and interdependence", a sub-item entitled "Development cooperation with middle-income countries".

RESOLUTION 64/209

Adopted at the 66th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2009, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/422/Add.1, para. 21),[245] by a recorded vote of 124 to none, with 50 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: None

Abstaining: Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

64/209. Towards a New International Economic Order

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations to promote the economic advancement and social progress of all peoples,

Recalling the principles of the Declaration on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order, as set out in resolutions 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI), respectively, adopted by the General Assembly at its sixth special session, on 1 May 1974,

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[245] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by the Sudan (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China).

Taking into account the fact that the year 2009 marks the thirty-fifth anniversary of the adoption of the Declaration and the Programme of Action,

Recalling its resolution 63/224 of 19 December 2008,

Reaffirming the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[246]

Recalling the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields, including the development goals and objectives contained therein, and recognizing the vital role played by those conferences and summits in shaping a broad development vision and in identifying commonly agreed objectives,

Concerned that the current international economic, financial, energy and food crises, as well as the challenges posed by climate change, aggravate the existing international situation and have a negative impact on the development prospects of developing countries, while threatening to further widen the gap between developed and developing countries, including the technological and income gap,

1. *Reaffirms* the need to continue working towards a new international economic order based on the principles of equity, sovereign equality, interdependence, common interest, cooperation and solidarity among all States;

2. *Decides* to continue considering the international economic situation and its impact on development during the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly, and in that regard requests the Secretary-General to include in his next report, under the item entitled "Globalization and interdependence", an overview of the major international economic and policy challenges for equitable and inclusive sustained economic growth and sustainable development, and of the role of the United Nations in addressing these issues, in the light of the relevant principles contained in the Declaration on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order.

RESOLUTION 64/210

Adopted at the 66th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/422/Add.1, para. 21)[247]

64/210. Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 62/199 of 19 December 2007 and 63/222 of 19 December 2008 on the role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence,

Recalling also the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development[248] and the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development,[249]

Recalling further its resolution 63/303 of 9 July 2009 on the Outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 63/199 of 19 December 2008 on social justice for a fair globalization, in which the Assembly took note with interest of the adoption of the Declaration on Social Justice for a Fair Globalization,[250]

Recalling also the 2005 World Summit Outcome[251] and all relevant General Assembly resolutions, in particular those that have built upon the 2005 World Summit Outcome, in the economic, social and related fields, including Assembly resolution 60/265 of 30 June 2006 entitled "Follow-up to the development outcome of the 2005 World Summit, including the Millennium Development Goals and the other internationally agreed development goals",

Reaffirming that the United Nations has a central role in promoting international cooperation for development and in promoting policy coherence on global development issues, including in the context of globalization and interdependence,

Reaffirming also the resolve expressed in the United Nations Millennium Declaration[252] to ensure that globalization becomes a positive force for all,

Recognizing that globalization, driven largely by economic liberalization and technology, implies that the economic performance of a country is increasingly affected by factors outside its geographical borders and that maximizing in an equitable manner the benefits of globalization requires developing responses to globalization through a strengthened global partnership for development to achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

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[246] See resolution 55/2.

[247] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee.

[248] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[249] Resolution 63/239, annex.

[250] A/63/538-E/2009/4, annex.

[251] See resolution 60/1.

[252] See resolution 55/2.

Reaffirming its strong support for fair and inclusive globalization and the need to translate growth into poverty reduction and in this regard its resolve to make the goals of full and productive employment and decent work for all, including for women and young people, a central objective of relevant national and international policies as well as national development strategies, including poverty reduction strategies, as part of efforts to achieve the Millennium Development Goals,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[251]

2. *Recognizes* that some countries have successfully adapted to the changes and have benefited from globalization but that many others, especially the least developed countries, have remained marginalized in the globalizing world economy, and recognizes also that, as stated in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[252] the benefits are very unevenly shared, while the costs are unevenly distributed;

3. *Reaffirms* the need for the United Nations to play a fundamental role in the promotion of international cooperation for development and the coherence, coordination and implementation of development goals and actions agreed upon by the international community, and resolves to strengthen coordination within the United Nations system in close cooperation with all other multilateral financial, trade and development institutions in order to support sustained economic growth, poverty eradication and sustainable development;

4. *Welcomes* the joint crisis initiative launched by the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination in 2009 to provide coordination on social protection floors, which aims at advocating for and advising on the provision of social protection floors and public spending in ways that will both kick-start growth and support more inclusive and sustainable social and economic development;

5. *Recognizes* that policies which link economic and social development can contribute to reducing inequalities within and among countries with a view to guaranteeing that the poor and vulnerable groups maximize their benefits from economic growth and development;

6. *Notes with concern* the unprecedented rise in unemployment as a consequence of the current global financial and economic crisis, recognizes that decent work remains one of the best routes out of poverty, and in this regard invites donor countries, multilateral organizations and other development partners to consider assisting developing countries to implement the resolution entitled "Recovering from the crisis: a Global Jobs Pact" adopted by the International Labour Conference at its ninety-eighth session, in consultation and cooperation with the International Labour Organization;

7. *Stresses* the need for all countries to harness knowledge and technology and stimulate innovation if they are to improve their competitiveness and benefit from trade and investment, and in this regard underlines the importance of concrete actions to facilitate the transfer of technology under fair, transparent and mutually agreed terms to developing countries in support of the implementation of their sustainable development strategies;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session, under the item entitled "Globalization and interdependence" the sub-item entitled "Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence".

RESOLUTION 64/211

Adopted at the 66th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/422/Add.3, para. 14)[254]

64/211. Creation of a global culture of cybersecurity and taking stock of national efforts to protect critical information infrastructures

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 55/63 of 4 December 2000 and 56/121 of 19 December 2001 on combating the criminal misuse of information technologies, 57/239 of 20 December 2002 on the creation of a global culture of cybersecurity and 58/199 of 23 December 2003 on the creation of a global culture of cybersecurity and the protection of critical information infrastructures,

Recalling also its resolutions 53/70 of 4 December 1998, 54/49 of 1 December 1999, 55/28 of 20 November 2000, 56/19 of 29 November 2001, 57/53 of 22 November 2002, 58/32 of 8 December 2003, 59/61 of 3 December 2004, 60/45 of 8 December 2005, 61/54 of 6 December 2006, 62/17 of 5 December 2007 and 63/37 of 2 December 2008 on developments with respect to information technologies in the context of international security,

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[251] A/64/310.

[254] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Belize, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Croatia, Dominican Republic, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Montenegro, Nigeria, Panama, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Singapore, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

Recalling further the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society, held in Geneva from 10 to 12 December 2003 (first phase) and in Tunis from 16 to 18 November 2005 (second phase),[255]

Recognizing that confidence and security in the use of information and communications technologies are among the main pillars of the information society and that a robust global culture of cybersecurity needs to be encouraged, promoted, developed and vigorously implemented,

Recognizing also the increasing contribution made by networked information technologies to many of the essential functions of daily life, commerce and the provision of goods and services, research, innovation and entrepreneurship, and to the free flow of information among individuals and organizations, Governments, business and civil society,

Recognizing further that, in a manner appropriate to their roles, Governments, business, organizations and individual owners and users of information technologies must assume responsibility for and take steps to enhance the security of these information technologies,

Recognizing the importance of the mandate of the Internet Governance Forum as a multi-stakeholder dialogue to discuss various matters, including public policy issues related to key elements of Internet governance in order to foster sustainability, robustness, security, stability and development of the Internet, and reiterating that all Governments should have an equal role and responsibility for international Internet governance and for ensuring the stability, security and continuity of the Internet,

Reaffirming the continuing need to enhance cooperation, to enable Governments, on an equal footing, to carry out their roles and responsibilities in international public policy issues pertaining to the Internet, but not the day-to-day technical and operational matters that do not impact on international public policy issues,

Recognizing that each country will determine its own critical information infrastructures,

Reaffirming the need to harness the potential of information and communications technologies to promote the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, recognizing that gaps in access to and use of information technologies by States can diminish their economic prosperity, and reaffirming also the effectiveness of cooperation in combating the criminal misuse of information technology and in creating a global culture of cybersecurity,

Stressing the need for enhanced efforts to close the digital divide in order to achieve universal access to information and communications technologies and to protect critical information infrastructures by facilitating the transfer of information technology and capacity-building to developing countries, especially the least developed countries, in the areas of cybersecurity best practices and training,

Expressing concern that threats to the reliable functioning of critical information infrastructures and to the integrity of the information carried over those networks are growing in both sophistication and gravity, affecting domestic, national and international welfare,

Affirming that the security of critical information infrastructures is a responsibility Governments must address systematically and an area in which they must lead nationally, in coordination with relevant stakeholders, who in turn must be aware of relevant risks, preventive measures and effective responses in a manner appropriate to their respective roles,

Recognizing that national efforts should be supported by international information-sharing and collaboration, so as to effectively confront the increasingly transnational nature of such threats,

Noting the work of relevant regional and international organizations on enhancing cybersecurity, and reiterating their role in encouraging national efforts and fostering international cooperation,

Noting also the 2009 report of the International Telecommunication Union on securing information and communication networks and best practices for developing a culture of cybersecurity, which focused on a comprehensive national approach to cybersecurity consistent with free speech, the free flow of information and due process of law,

Recognizing that national efforts to protect critical information infrastructures benefit from a periodic assessment of their progress,

1. *Invites* Member States to use, if and when they deem appropriate, the annexed voluntary self-assessment tool for national efforts to protect critical information infrastructures in order to assist in assessing their efforts in this regard to strengthen their cybersecurity, so as to highlight areas for further action, with the goal of increasing the global culture of cybersecurity;

2. *Encourages* Member States and relevant regional and international organizations that have developed strategies to deal with cybersecurity and the protection of critical information infrastructures to share their best practices and measures that could assist other Member States in their efforts to facilitate the achievement of cybersecurity by providing such information to the Secretary-General for compilation and dissemination to Member States.

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[255] See A/C.2/59/3 and A/60/687.

Annex

Voluntary self-assessment tool for national efforts to protect critical information infrastructures[256]

Taking stock of cybersecurity needs and strategies

1. Assess the role of information and communications technologies in your national economy, national security, critical infrastructures (such as transportation, water and food supplies, public health, energy, finance, emergency services) and civil society.

2. Determine the cybersecurity and critical information infrastructure protection risks to your economy, national security, critical infrastructures and civil society that must be managed.

3. Understand the vulnerabilities of the networks in use, the relative levels of threat faced by each sector at present and the current management plan; note how changes in the economic environment, national security priorities and civil society needs affect these calculations.

4. Determine the goals of the national cybersecurity and critical information infrastructure protection strategy; describe its goals, the current level of implementation, measures that exist to gauge its progress, its relation to other national policy objectives and how such a strategy fits within regional and international initiatives.

Stakeholder roles and responsibilities

5. Determine key stakeholders with a role in cybersecurity and critical information infrastructure protection and describe the role of each in the development of relevant policies and operations, including:

- National Government ministries or agencies, noting primary points of contact and responsibilities of each;
- Other government (local and regional) participants;
- Non-governmental actors, including industry, civil society and academia;
- Individual citizens, noting whether average users of the Internet have access to basic training in avoiding threats online and whether there is a national awareness-raising campaign regarding cybersecurity.

Policy processes and participation

6. Identify formal and informal venues that currently exist for Government-industry collaboration in the development of cybersecurity and critical information infrastructure protection policy and operations; determine participants, role(s) and objectives, methods for obtaining and addressing input, and adequacy in achieving relevant cybersecurity and critical information infrastructure protection goals.

7. Identify other forums or structures that may be needed to integrate the government and non-government perspectives and knowledge necessary to realize national cybersecurity and critical information infrastructure protection goals.

Public-private cooperation

8. Collect all actions taken and plans to develop collaboration between government and the private sector, including any arrangements for information-sharing and incident management.

9. Collect all current and planned initiatives to promote shared interests and address common challenges among both critical infrastructure participants and private-sector actors mutually dependent on the same interconnected critical infrastructure.

Incident management and recovery

10. Identify the Government agency that serves as the coordinator for incident management, including capability for watch, warning, response and recovery functions; the cooperating Government agencies; non-governmental cooperating participants, including industry and other partners; and any arrangements in place for cooperation and trusted information-sharing.

11. Separately, identify national-level computer incident response capacity, including any computer incident response team with national responsibilities and its roles and responsibilities, including existing tools and procedures for the protection of Government computer networks, and existing tools and procedures for the dissemination of incident-management information.

12. Identify networks and processes of international cooperation that may enhance incident response and contingency planning, identifying partners and arrangements for bilateral and multilateral cooperation, where appropriate.

Legal frameworks

13. Review and update legal authorities (including those related to cybercrime, privacy, data protection, commercial

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[256] This is a voluntary tool that may be used by Member States, in part or in its entirety, if and when they deem appropriate, in order to assist in their efforts to protect their critical information infrastructures and strengthen their cybersecurity.

law, digital signatures and encryption) that may be outdated or obsolete as a result of the rapid uptake of and dependence upon new information and communications technologies, and use regional and international conventions, arrangements and precedents in these reviews. Ascertain whether your country has developed necessary legislation for the investigation and prosecution of cybercrime, noting existing frameworks, for example, General Assembly resolutions 55/63 and 56/121 on combating the criminal misuse of information technologies, and regional initiatives, including the Council of Europe Convention on Cybercrime.

14. Determine the current status of national cybercrime authorities and procedures, including legal authorities and national cybercrime units, and the level of understanding among prosecutors, judges and legislators of cybercrime issues.

15. Assess the adequacy of current legal codes and authorities in addressing the current and future challenges of cybercrime, and of cyberspace more generally.

16. Examine national participation in international efforts to combat cybercrime, such as the round-the-clock Cybercrime Point of Contact Network.

17. Determine the requirements for national law enforcement agencies to cooperate with international counterparts to investigate transnational cybercrime in those instances in which infrastructure is situated or perpetrators reside in national territory, but victims reside elsewhere.

Developing a global culture of cybersecurity

18. Summarize actions taken and plans to develop a national culture of cybersecurity referred to in General Assembly resolutions 57/239 and 58/199, including implementation of a cybersecurity plan for Government-operated systems, national awareness-raising programmes, outreach programmes to, among others, children and individual users, and national cybersecurity and critical information infrastructure protection training requirements.

RESOLUTION 64/212

Adopted at the 66th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/422/Add.3, para. 14)[257]

64/212. Science and technology for development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 58/200 of 23 December 2003, 59/220 of 22 December 2004, 60/205 of 22 December 2005 and 62/201 of 19 December 2007,

Recalling also its resolution 61/207 of 20 December 2006 and its reference to science and technology,

Taking note of Economic and Social Council resolutions 2006/46 of 28 July 2006 and 2009/8 of 24 July 2009,

Recognizing the vital role that science and technology, including environmentally sound technologies, can play in development and in facilitating efforts to eradicate poverty, achieve food security, fight diseases, improve education, protect the environment, accelerate the pace of economic diversification and transformation and improve productivity and competitiveness,

Recalling the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[258]

Recalling also the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society,[259]

Recognizing that international support can help developing countries to benefit from technological advances and can enhance their productive capacity,

Underscoring the role that traditional knowledge can play in technological development, and in the sustainable management and use of natural resources,

Acknowledging the urgent need to bridge the digital divide and to assist developing countries in accessing the potential benefits of information and communications technologies,

Encouraging continued efforts towards the implementation of the Bali Strategic Plan for Technology Support and Capacity-building of the United Nations Environment Programme,[260]

Reaffirming the need to enhance the science and technology programmes of the relevant entities of the United Nations system,

Noting with appreciation the collaboration between the Commission on Science and Technology for Development and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development in establishing a network of centres of excellence in science and technology for developing countries and in designing and carrying out science, technology and innovation policy reviews,

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[257] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee.

[258] See resolution 60/1.

[259] See A/60/687 and A/C.2/59/3, annex, chap. I.

[260] UNEP/GC.23/6/Add.1 and Corr.1, annex.

Taking note with interest of the establishment of the inter-agency cooperation network on biotechnology, UN-Biotech, as described in the report of the Secretary-General,[261]

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,

Encouraging the development of initiatives to promote private sector engagement in technology transfer and technological and scientific cooperation,

1. *Reaffirms its commitment*:

(*a*) To strengthen and enhance existing mechanisms and to support initiatives for research and development, including through voluntary partnerships between the public and private sectors, to address the special needs of developing countries in the areas of health, agriculture, conservation, sustainable use of natural resources and environmental management, energy, forestry and the impact of climate change;

(*b*) To promote and facilitate, as appropriate, access to, and development, transfer and diffusion of, technologies, including environmentally sound technologies and the corresponding know-how, to developing countries;

(*c*) To assist developing countries in their efforts to promote and develop national strategies for human resources and science and technology, which are primary drivers of national capacity-building for development;

(*d*) To promote and support greater efforts to develop renewable sources of energy, including appropriate technology;

(*e*) To implement policies at the national and international levels to attract both public and private investment, domestic and foreign, that enhances knowledge, transfers technology on mutually agreed terms and raises productivity;

(*f*) To support the efforts of developing countries, individually and collectively, to harness new agricultural technologies in order to increase agricultural productivity through environmentally sustainable means;

2. *Recognizes* that science and technology, including information and communications technologies, are vital for the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and for the full participation of developing countries in the global economy;

3. *Requests* the Commission on Science and Technology for Development to provide a forum within which to continue to assist the Economic and Social Council as the focal point in the system-wide follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society[259] and to address within its mandate, in accordance with Council resolution 2006/46, the special needs of developing countries in areas such as agriculture, rural development, information and communications technologies and environmental management;

4. *Encourages* the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in collaboration with relevant partners, to continue to undertake science, technology and innovation policy reviews, with a view to assisting developing countries and countries with economies in transition in identifying the measures that are needed to integrate science, technology and innovation policies into their national development strategies;

5. *Encourages* the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and other relevant organizations to assist developing countries in their efforts to integrate science, technology and innovation policies into national development strategies;

6. *Encourages* Governments to strengthen and foster investment in research and development for environmentally sound technologies and to promote the involvement of the business and financial sectors in the development of those technologies, and invites the international community to support those efforts;

7. *Encourages* existing arrangements and the further promotion of regional, subregional and interregional joint research and development projects, where feasible, by mobilizing existing scientific and research and development resources and by networking sophisticated scientific facilities and research equipment;

8. *Encourages* the international community to continue to facilitate, in view of the difference in level of development between countries, an adequate diffusion of scientific and technical knowledge and transfer of, access to and acquisition of technology for developing countries, under fair, transparent and mutually agreed terms, in a manner conducive to social and economic welfare for the benefit of society;

9. *Calls for* continued collaboration between United Nations entities and other international organizations, civil society and the private sector in implementing the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society, with a view to putting the potential of information and communications technologies at the service of development through policy research on the digital divide and on new challenges of the information society, as well as technical assistance activities, involving multi-stakeholder partnerships;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution and recommendations for future follow-up, including lessons learned in integrating science, technology and innovation policies into national development strategies.

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[261] A/64/168.

RESOLUTION 64/213

Adopted at the 66th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/423/Add.1, para. 8)[262]

64/213. Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Brussels Declaration[263] and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001–2010,[264] adopted at the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries,

Recalling also the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[265]

Recalling further the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[266]

Recalling its resolution 61/1 of 19 September 2006, entitled "Declaration of the high-level meeting of the sixty-first session of the General Assembly on the midterm comprehensive global review of the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001–2010",

Recalling also its resolution 63/227 of 19 December 2008, in which it decided to convene the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries in 2011 at a high level,

Taking note of the Ministerial Declaration adopted at the Ministerial Meeting of the Least Developed Countries held in New York on 29 September 2009,[267]

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 2009/31 of 31 July 2009 on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001–2010,

Recalling also the Cotonou Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001–2010,[268] as an initiative owned and led by the least developed countries,

Recalling further the Outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development,[269] where it was recognized that the economic and social progress achieved by the least developed countries in recent years is being threatened by the global economic and financial crisis and that, in order to adequately respond to the crisis, developing countries, especially the least developed countries, will need a larger share of any additional resources, both short-term liquidity and long-term development financing,

Reaffirming that the Programme of Action constitutes a fundamental framework for a strong global partnership, whose goal is to accelerate sustained economic growth, sustainable development and poverty eradication in the least developed countries,

Urging the least developed countries to strengthen country ownership in the implementation of the Programme of Action by, inter alia, translating its goals and targets into specific measures within their national development frameworks and poverty eradication strategies, including, where they exist, poverty reduction strategy papers, promoting broad-based and inclusive dialogue on development with relevant stakeholders, including civil society and the private sector, and enhancing domestic resource mobilization and aid management,

Urging development partners to fully implement, in a timely manner, commitments in the Programme of Action, and to exercise individual best efforts to continue to increase their financial and technical support for its implementation,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001–2010;[270]

2. *Also takes note* of the progress being made in the preparatory process for the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries;

3. *Welcomes and accepts with appreciation* the offer of the Government of Turkey to host the Conference;

4. *Decides* to convene the Conference in the first half of 2011 for a duration of five days, from within existing resources, at a venue and time to be determined in consultation with the host Government;

5. *Also decides* that the meeting of the intergovernmental preparatory committee envisaged in paragraph 5 of resolution 63/227 will be organized in New York in two parts, from 10 to 14 January 2011 and from 18 to 25 April 2011, each of five working days;

6. *Requests* the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, as the focal point for the preparations for the Conference, as requested in

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[262] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee.

[263] A/CONF.191/13, chap. I.

[264] Ibid., chap. II.

[265] See resolution 55/2.

[266] See resolution 60/1.

[267] A/C.2/64/3, annex.

[268] A/61/117, annex I.

[269] Resolution 63/303, annex.

[270] A/64/80-E/2009/79 and Corr.1.

resolution 63/227, to ensure effective, efficient and timely preparations for the Conference and to further mobilize and coordinate the active involvement of the organizations of the United Nations system;

7. *Requests* the organizations of the United Nations system, including the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the regional commissions, the specialized agencies, and funds and programmes, and invites the Bretton Woods institutions, the World Trade Organization and other relevant international and regional organizations, within their respective mandates, to provide necessary support and actively contribute to the preparatory process and to the Conference itself;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure, as appropriate, the full involvement of resident coordinators and country teams in preparations for the Conference, in particular in country- and regional-level preparations;

9. *Invites* Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, major groups and other donors to contribute to the Trust Fund for the participation of representatives of the least developed countries in both the preparatory process and the Conference itself;

10. *Recognizes* the importance of the contributions of all relevant stakeholders, including parliaments, civil society, non-governmental organizations and the private sector, to the Conference and its preparatory process, stresses, in this regard, the need for active participation, including from the least developed countries, and invites donors to make appropriate contributions for that purpose;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General, with the assistance of concerned organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, including the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat, in collaboration with the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, to take the necessary measures to intensify their public information efforts and other appropriate initiatives to enhance public awareness in favour of the Conference, including by highlighting its objectives and its significance;

12. *Emphasizes* the importance of country-level preparations as a critical input to the preparatory process for the Conference and the implementation of and follow-up to its outcome, and calls upon the Governments of the least developed countries to submit their reports in a timely manner;

13. *Requests* the executive secretaries of the Economic Commission for Africa and the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, in close coordination and cooperation with the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, to provide the necessary substantive and organizational arrangements and to organize the regional-level preparatory review meetings in the context of the annual sessions of 2010 of their respective commissions, as called for by the General Assembly in its resolution 63/227;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session a report on the further implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001–2010 as well as on the implementation of the present resolution, including the state of the substantive, organizational and logistic preparations for the Conference.

RESOLUTION 64/214

Adopted at the 66th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/423/Add.2, para. 9)[271]

64/214. Groups of countries in special situations: specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries: outcome of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 58/201 of 23 December 2003, 60/208 of 22 December 2005, 61/212 of 20 December 2006, 62/204 of 19 December 2007 and 63/228 of 19 December 2008,

Recalling also the United Nations Millennium Declaration[272] and the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[273]

Recalling further the Almaty Declaration[274] and the Almaty Programme of Action: Addressing the Special Needs of Landlocked Developing Countries within a New Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation for Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries,[275]

Recalling its resolution 63/2 of 3 October 2008, by which it adopted the Declaration of the high-level meeting of the sixty-third session of the General Assembly on the midterm review of the Almaty Programme of Action,

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[271] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee.

[272] See resolution 55/2.

[273] See resolution 60/1.

[274] *Report of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation, Almaty, Kazakhstan, 28 and 29 August 2003* (A/CONF.202/3), annex II.

[275] Ibid., annex I.

Taking note of the Communiqué of the Eighth Annual Ministerial Meeting of Landlocked Developing Countries, held at United Nations Headquarters on 25 September 2009,[276]

Recalling the New Partnership for Africa's Development,[277] an initiative for accelerating regional economic cooperation and development, as many landlocked and transit developing countries are located in Africa,

Recognizing that the lack of territorial access to the sea, aggravated by remoteness from world markets, and prohibitive transit costs and risks continue to impose serious constraints on export earnings, private capital inflow and domestic resource mobilization of landlocked developing countries and therefore adversely affect their overall growth and socio-economic development,

Expressing support to those landlocked developing countries that are emerging from conflict, with a view to enabling them to rehabilitate and reconstruct, as appropriate, political, social and economic infrastructure and to assisting them in achieving their development priorities in accordance with the goals and targets of the Almaty Programme of Action,

Recognizing that the primary responsibility for establishing effective transit systems rests with the landlocked and transit developing countries,

Reaffirming that the Almaty Programme of Action constitutes a fundamental framework for genuine partnerships between landlocked and transit developing countries and their development partners at the national, bilateral, subregional, regional and global levels,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action;[278]

2. *Reaffirms* the right of access of landlocked countries to and from the sea and freedom of transit through the territory of transit countries by all means of transport, in accordance with the applicable rules of international law;

3. *Also reaffirms* that transit countries, in the exercise of their full sovereignty over their territory, have the right to take all measures necessary to ensure that the rights and facilities provided for landlocked countries in no way infringe upon their legitimate interests;

4. *Calls upon* landlocked and transit developing countries to take all appropriate measures, as set out in the Declaration of the high-level meeting of the sixty-third session of the General Assembly on the midterm review of the Almaty Programme of Action,[279] to speed up the implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action;[275]

5. *Reaffirms its full commitment* to address urgently the special development needs of and challenges faced by the landlocked developing countries through the full, timely and effective implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action, as contained in the Declaration on the midterm review;

6. *Invites* Member States, organizations of the United Nations system and other relevant international, regional and subregional organizations and multilateral financial and development institutions to accelerate the implementation of the specific actions in the five priorities agreed upon in the Almaty Programme of Action and those contained in the Declaration on the midterm review;

7. *Acknowledges* that landlocked and transit developing countries in Africa, Asia, Europe and Latin America have strengthened their policy and governance reform efforts and that donor countries, financial and development institutions and international and regional organizations have paid greater attention to the establishment of efficient transit systems;

8. *Notes with concern* that, despite the progress made, landlocked developing countries continue to be marginalized in international trade, which prevents them from fully harnessing the potential of trade as an engine of sustained economic growth and development, and face challenges in their efforts to establish efficient transit transport systems and achieve their development goals, including the internationally agreed development goals and the Millennium Development Goals;

9. *Expresses concern* that the economic growth and social well-being of landlocked developing countries remain very vulnerable to external shocks and to the multiple challenges the international community faces, and stresses the need for the international community to enhance development assistance to landlocked developing countries;

10. *Calls upon* donors and multilateral and regional financial and development institutions to provide landlocked and transit developing countries with appropriate, substantial and better-coordinated technical and financial assistance, particularly in the form of grants or concessionary loans, for the implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action, in particular for the construction, maintenance and improvement of their transport, storage and other transit-related facilities, including alternative routes, completion of missing links

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[276] A/C.2/64/4, annex.

[277] A/57/304, annex.

[278] A/64/268.

[279] See resolution 63/2.

and improved communications, so as to promote subregional, regional and interregional projects and programmes;

11. *Stresses* the need to attract private investment, including foreign direct investment, and that private sector participation through co-financing can play a catalytic role in this regard, and recalls that, notwithstanding the increase of flows in foreign direct investment, private sector involvement in infrastructure development still has considerable potential;

12. *Underscores* the importance of international trade and trade facilitation as one of the priorities of the Almaty Programme of Action, and notes that the ongoing World Trade Organization Doha Round negotiations on trade facilitation, particularly on the relevant articles of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, such as those referred to in the Declaration on the midterm review, are important for landlocked developing countries to gain a more efficient flow of goods and services as well as improved international competitiveness resulting from lower transaction costs;

13. *Calls upon* the development partners to effectively operationalize the Aid for Trade Initiative so as to support trade facilitation measures and trade-related technical assistance, as well as the diversification of export products through the development of small and medium-sized enterprises and private-sector involvement in landlocked developing countries;

14. *Encourages* the international community to enhance efforts to facilitate access to and encourage the transfer of technologies related to transit transport systems, including information and communications technology;

15. *Encourages* the further strengthening of South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation with the involvement of donors, as well as cooperation among subregional and regional organizations, in support of the efforts of landlocked and transit developing countries towards achieving the full and effective implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action;

16. *Encourages* landlocked and transit developing countries to pursue the harmonization of trade and transit transport facilitation procedures and to continue to make efforts to accede to relevant multilateral conventions in the area of transit transport and trade;

17. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, the regional commissions, the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, and invites other international organizations, including the World Bank, the regional development banks, the World Customs Organization, the World Trade Organization, regional economic integration organizations, and other relevant regional and subregional organizations, to further integrate the Almaty Programme of Action into their relevant programmes of work, taking full account of the Declaration on the midterm review, and encourages them to continue, as appropriate, within their respective mandates, their support to the landlocked and transit developing countries, inter alia, through well-coordinated and coherent technical assistance programmes in transit transport and trade facilitation;

18. *Encourages* the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States to continue to ensure coordinated follow-up to and effective monitoring and reporting on the implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action, in line with General Assembly resolution 57/270 B of 23 June 2003, and to step up its advocacy efforts directed towards raising international awareness and mobilizing resources, as well as to further develop cooperation and coordination with organizations within the United Nations system in order to ensure the timely and effective implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action and the Declaration on the midterm review;

19. *Welcomes* the establishment of the international think tank for the landlocked developing countries in Ulaanbaatar to enhance analytical capability within landlocked developing countries and to promote the exchange of experiences and best practices needed to maximize their coordinated efforts for the full and effective implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action and the Millennium Development Goals, and invites the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, other relevant organizations of the United Nations system, Member States, as well as relevant international and regional organizations, to assist the landlocked developing countries in implementing the activities of the international think tank;

20. *Encourages* donors and the international financial and development institutions, as well as private entities, to make voluntary contributions to the trust fund established by the Secretary-General to support the activities related to the follow-up to the implementation of the outcome of the Almaty International Ministerial Conference;[274]

21. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session an analytical report on the implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action and the Declaration on the midterm review;

22. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the sub-item entitled "Specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries: outcome of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation".

RESOLUTION 64/215

Adopted at the 66th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/424, para. 16)[280]

64/215. Legal empowerment of the poor and eradication of poverty

The General Assembly,

Recalling the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[281]

Recalling also its resolution 63/142 of 11 December 2008,

Recalling further the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[282] the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,[283] the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),[284] the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development[285] and the Outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development,[286]

Reaffirming the importance of the timely and full realization of the development goals and objectives agreed upon at the major United Nations conferences and summits, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Reiterating that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated,

Remaining committed to the objective of making the right to development a reality for everyone, as set out in the Millennium Declaration,

Concerned by the global nature of poverty and inequality, reaffirming that eradicating poverty is one of the greatest global challenges facing the world today, particularly in Africa and in the least developed countries, and underlining the importance of accelerating sustainable broad-based and inclusive economic growth, including full, productive employment generation and decent work,

Stressing that poverty is a multifaceted problem that requires a multifaceted and integrated approach in addressing the economic, political, social, environmental and institutional dimensions at all levels,

Recognizing that empowerment of the poor is essential for the effective eradication of poverty and hunger,

Recognizing also, in this regard, that access to justice and the realization of rights related, inter alia, to property, labour and business are mutually reinforcing and essential determinants of the effective eradication of poverty,

Taking note of the report of the Commission on Legal Empowerment of the Poor, entitled "Making the Law Work for Everyone",[287] as a useful reference in the area of poverty eradication,

Reaffirming that the rule of law at the national and international levels is essential for sustained economic growth, sustainable development and the eradication of poverty and hunger,

Stressing that gender equality and the empowerment of women are essential to achieving equitable and effective development and to fostering a vibrant economy, and reaffirming its commitment to eliminating gender-based discrimination in all its forms, including in the labour and financial markets, as well as, inter alia, in respect of the ownership of assets and property rights, to promoting women's rights, including their economic empowerment, and effectively mainstreaming gender in law reforms, business support services and economic programmes, and to giving women full and equal access to economic resources,

Reaffirming that each country must take primary responsibility for its own development and that the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized in the achievement of sustainable development, and recognizing that national efforts should be complemented by supportive global programmes, measures and policies aimed at expanding the development opportunities of developing countries, while taking into account national conditions and ensuring respect for national ownership, strategies and sovereignty,

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[280] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belgium, Benin, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burundi, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Eritrea, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Kazakhstan, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malta, Mexico, Montenegro, Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, Seychelles, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America and Uruguay.

[281] See resolution 60/1.

[282] See resolution 55/2.

[283] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[284] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[285] Resolution 63/239, annex.

[286] Resolution 63/303, annex.

[287] Available from www.undp.org/LegalEmpowerment/reports/concept2action.html.

Deeply concerned by the significant challenges that the financial and economic crisis poses for the eradication of poverty, and in this regard reiterating that national efforts should be complemented by an enabling international environment, to ensure the achievement of a more inclusive, equitable, balanced, development-oriented and sustainable economic development that would help to overcome poverty and inequality,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[288]

2. *Also takes note* of the broad diversity of national experiences in the area of legal empowerment of the poor, recognizes the initiatives undertaken and progress made by some countries in advancing legal empowerment of the poor as an integral part of their national strategies and objectives, and stresses the importance of promoting the sharing of national best practices;

3. *Welcomes*, in this regard, the ongoing work of the United Nations funds and programmes as well as of the specialized agencies;

4. *Emphasizes* the need to accord the highest priority to poverty eradication within the United Nations development agenda, while stressing the importance of addressing the causes and challenges of poverty through integrated, coordinated and coherent strategies at the national, intergovernmental and inter-agency levels;

5. *Also emphasizes* the importance of access to justice for all, and in this regard encourages the strengthening and improvement of the administration of justice and identity and birth registration systems, as well as awareness-raising concerning existing legal rights;

6. *Recognizes* that respect for the rule of law and property rights, and the pursuit of appropriate policy and regulatory frameworks, inter alia, encourage business formation, including entrepreneurship, and contribute to poverty eradication;

7. *Reiterates* the importance of pursuing appropriate policy and regulatory frameworks at national levels to promote employment and decent work for all and to protect labour rights, including through respect for the fundamental principles and rights at work proclaimed by the International Labour Organization;

8. *Recognizes* the importance of pursuing appropriate policy and regulatory frameworks at national levels to promote a dynamic, inclusive, well-functioning and socially responsible private sector as a valuable instrument for generating economic growth and reducing poverty, and encourages the promotion of an enabling environment that facilitates entrepreneurship and doing business by all, including women, the poor and the vulnerable;

9. *Encourages* countries to continue their efforts in the area of legal empowerment of the poor, including access to justice and the realization of rights related to property, labour and business, addressing both formal and informal settings by taking into account those dimensions in their national policies and strategies, while bearing in mind the importance of national circumstances, ownership and leadership;

10. *Emphasizes* that education and training are among the critical factors in empowering those living in poverty and in this regard calls for action at all levels to give high priority to improving and expanding literacy, while recognizing the complexity of the challenge of poverty eradication;

11. *Calls upon* the international community to continue to give priority to the eradication of poverty, and calls upon countries in a position to do so to support the national efforts of developing countries in promoting legal empowerment of the poor through the provision of adequate, predictable financial resources or technical assistance;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution, under the item entitled "Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit" and to continue the consideration of legal empowerment of the poor, taking into account national experiences and the views of Member States.

RESOLUTION 64/216

Adopted at the 66th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/424/Add.1, para. 9)[289]

64/216. Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008–2017)

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 47/196 of 22 December 1992, 48/183 of 21 December 1993, 50/107 of 20 December 1995, 56/207 of 21 December 2001, 57/265 and 57/266 of 20 December 2002, 58/222 of 23 December 2003, 59/247 of 22 December 2004, 60/209 of 22 December 2005, 61/213 of 20 December 2006, 62/205 of 19 December 2007 and 63/230 of 19 December 2008,

Recalling also the United Nations Millennium Declaration, adopted by Heads of State and Government on the occasion of the Millennium Summit,[290] as well as the international commitment to eradicate extreme poverty and to halve, by 2015, the proportion of the world's people whose income is less than one dollar a day and the proportion of people who suffer from hunger,

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[288] A/64/133.

[289] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee.

[290] See resolution 55/2.

Recalling further the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[291]

Recalling its resolution 60/265 of 30 June 2006 on the follow-up to the development outcome of the 2005 World Summit, including the Millennium Development Goals and the other internationally agreed development goals,

Recalling also its resolution 61/16 of 20 November 2006 on the strengthening of the Economic and Social Council,

Welcoming the poverty-related discussions in the annual ministerial reviews held by the Economic and Social Council, which play an important supporting role in the implementation of the Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008–2017),

Noting with appreciation the ministerial declaration adopted at the high-level segment of the substantive session of 2006 of the Economic and Social Council on creating an environment at the national and international levels conducive to generating full and productive employment and decent work for all, and its impact on sustainable development,[292] and also Economic and Social Council resolution 2009/5 of 24 July 2009 entitled "Recovering from the crisis: a Global Jobs Pact",

Recalling its resolution 63/303 of 9 July 2009 on the outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development,

Recalling also the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development: outcome document of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus,[293]

Recalling further the outcomes of the World Summit for Social Development[294] and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly,[295]

Underlining the fact that, in the face of the current multiple, interrelated global crises and challenges, such as the financial and economic crisis, the food crisis, volatile energy and commodity prices and climate change, cooperation and increased commitment by all relevant partners, including the public sector, the private sector and civil society, are needed more than ever, and recognizing in this context the urgent need to achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Expressing concern that, after the First United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997–2006) and six years from the 2015 target date of the Millennium Development Goals, while there has been progress in reducing poverty in some regions, this progress has been uneven and the number of people living in poverty in some countries continues to increase, with women and children constituting the majority of the most affected groups, especially in the least developed countries and particularly in sub-Saharan Africa,

Recognizing that rates of economic growth vary among countries and that these differences must be addressed by, among other actions, promoting pro-poor growth and social protection,

Concerned at the global nature of poverty and inequality, and underlining the fact that the eradication of poverty and hunger is an ethical, social, political and economic imperative of humankind,

Reaffirming that eradicating poverty is one of the greatest global challenges facing the world today, particularly in Africa and in least developed countries, and underlining the fact that the importance of accelerating sustainable broad-based and inclusive economic growth, including full, productive employment generation and decent work,

Recognizing that mobilizing financial resources for development at the national and international levels and the effective use of those resources are central to a global partnership for development in support of the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Recognizing also the contributions of South-South and triangular cooperation to the efforts of developing countries to eradicate poverty and to pursue sustainable development,

Acknowledging that good governance at the national and international levels and sustained and inclusive economic growth, supported by full employment and decent work, rising productivity and a favourable environment, including public and private investment and entrepreneurship, are necessary to eradicate poverty, achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and realize a rise in living standards, and that corporate social responsibility initiatives play an important role in maximizing the impact of public and private investment,

Underlining the priority and urgency given by the Heads of State and Government to the eradication of poverty, as expressed in the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields,

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[291] See resolution 60/1.

[292] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-first Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/61/3/Rev.1), chap. III, para. 50.

[293] Resolution 63/239, annex.

[294] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6–12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[295] Resolution S-24/2, annex.

1. *Reaffirms* that the objective of the Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008–2017) is to support, in an efficient and coordinated manner, the follow-up to the implementation of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, related to the eradication of poverty and to coordinate international support to that end;

2. *Also reaffirms* that each country must take primary responsibility for its own development and that the role of national policies and strategies cannot be overemphasized in the achievement of sustainable development and poverty eradication, and recognizes that increased effective national efforts should be complemented by concrete, effective and supportive international programmes, measures and policies aimed at expanding the development opportunities of developing countries, while taking into account national conditions and ensuring respect for national ownership, strategies and sovereignty;

3. *Emphasizes* the need to accord the highest priority to poverty eradication within the United Nations development agenda, while stressing the importance of addressing the causes and challenges of poverty through integrated, coordinated and coherent strategies at the national, intergovernmental and inter-agency levels;

4. *Reiterates* the need to strengthen the leadership role of the United Nations in promoting international cooperation for development, which is critical for the eradication of poverty;

5. *Stresses* the importance of ensuring, at the national, intergovernmental and inter-agency levels, coherent, comprehensive and integrated activities for the eradication of poverty in accordance with the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields;

6. *Reaffirms* the commitment to promote opportunities for full, freely chosen and productive employment, including for the disadvantaged, as well as decent work for all, with full respect for fundamental principles and rights at work under conditions of equity, equality, security and dignity, and also reaffirms that macroeconomic policies should, inter alia, support employment creation, taking fully into account the social and environmental impact and dimensions of globalization, and that these concepts are key elements of sustainable development for all countries and are therefore a priority objective of international cooperation;

7. *Emphasizes* that education and training are among the critical factors in empowering those living in poverty, while recognizing the complexity of the challenge of poverty eradication;

8. *Calls upon* the international community to continue to give priority to the eradication of poverty and upon donor countries in a position to do so to support the effective national efforts of developing countries in this regard, through adequate predictable financial resources on either a bilateral or a multilateral basis;

9. *Reaffirms* the need to fulfil all official development assistance commitments, including the commitments made by many developed countries to achieve the target of 0.7 per cent of gross national product for official development assistance to developing countries by 2015, and to reach the level of at least 0.5 per cent of gross national product for development assistance by 2010, as well as a target of 0.15 to 0.20 per cent of gross national product for official development assistance to least developed countries;

10. *Welcomes* the increased efforts to improve the quality of official development assistance and to increase its impact on development, including through the Development Cooperation Forum of the Economic and Social Council, the 2005 Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness and the 2008 Accra Agenda for Action,[296] which make important contributions to the efforts of those countries which have committed to them, and through the adoption of the fundamental principles of national ownership, alignment, harmonization and management of results and through the further alignment of assistance with countries' strategies, the building of institutional capacities, the reduction of transaction costs, the elimination of bureaucratic procedures, the achievement of progress on untying aid, the enhancement of the absorptive capacity and financial management of recipient countries and the strengthening of the focus on development results, and bears in mind that there is no one-size-fits-all formula that will guarantee effective assistance and that the specific situation of each country needs to be fully considered;

11. *Recognizes* that sustained and inclusive economic growth is essential for eradicating poverty and hunger, in particular in developing countries, and stresses that national efforts in this regard should be complemented by an enabling international environment;

12. *Calls upon* Member States to continue their ambitious efforts to strive for more inclusive, equitable, balanced, stable and development-oriented sustainable socio-economic approaches to overcoming poverty and inequality;

13. *Takes note* of the decision of the Secretary-General to appoint the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs as the coordinator for the Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008–2017);

14. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system to consider activities to implement the Second Decade, in consultation with Member States and other relevant stakeholders;

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[296] A/63/539, annex.

15. *Takes note* of the inter-agency system-wide plan of action for poverty eradication involving more than twenty-one agencies, funds, programmes and regional commissions, and requests the Secretary-General to provide further details of this plan of action to the Member States;

16. *Reaffirms* the need to give the highest priority to its consideration of the item on poverty eradication in its agenda, and in that regard recalls its decision, in resolution 63/230, as a contribution to the Second Decade, to convene, during its sixty-eighth session, a meeting of the General Assembly at the highest appropriate political level centred on the review process devoted to the theme relating to the issue of poverty eradication, and stresses that the meeting and the preparatory activities should be carried out within the budget level proposed by the Secretary-General for the biennium 2012–2013 and should be organized in the most effective and efficient manner;

17. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled "Implementation of the Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008–2017)", and requests the Secretary-General to submit a report that details the current response of the United Nations system related to the theme of the Second Decade.

RESOLUTION 64/217

Adopted at the 66th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/424/Add.2, para. 7)[297]

64/217. Women in development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 52/195 of 18 December 1997, 54/210 of 22 December 1999, 56/188 of 21 December 2001, 58/206 of 23 December 2003, 59/248 of 22 December 2004, 60/210 of 22 December 2005 and 62/206 of 19 December 2007 and all its other resolutions on the integration of women in development, and the relevant resolutions and agreed conclusions adopted by the Commission on the Status of Women, including the Declaration adopted at its forty-ninth session,[298]

Reaffirming the Beijing Declaration[299] and Platform for Action[300] and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century",[301]

Reaffirming also the commitments to gender equality and the advancement of women made at the Millennium Summit,[302] the 2005 World Summit[303] and other major United Nations summits, conferences and special sessions, and reaffirming further that their full, effective and accelerated implementation are integral to achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Reaffirming further the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[302] which affirms that the equal rights and opportunities of women and men must be assured, and calls for, inter alia, the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women as being effective in and essential to eradicating poverty and hunger, combating diseases and stimulating development that is truly sustainable,

Recalling the outcomes of the International Conference on Financing for Development[304] and the World Summit on Sustainable Development,[305] the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development[306] and the Outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development,[307]

Taking note with appreciation of the discussion on women in development in the Commission on the Status of Women at its fiftieth session, and recalling its agreed conclusions on "Enhanced participation of women in development: an enabling environment for achieving gender equality and the advancement of women, taking into account, inter alia, the fields of education, health and work",[308]

Recognizing that access to basic affordable health care, preventive health information and the highest standard of health, including in the areas of sexual and reproductive health, is critical to women's economic advancement, that lack of economic empowerment and independence increases women's vulnerability to a range of negative consequences, including the risk of contracting HIV/AIDS, and that the neglect of the full enjoyment of human rights by women severely limits their opportunities in public and private life, including the opportunity for education and economic and political empowerment,

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[297] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee.

[298] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2005, Supplement No. 7* and corrigendum (E/2005/27 and Corr.1), chap. I, sect. A.

[299] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[300] Ibid., annex II.

[301] Resolution S-23/2, annex, and resolution S-23/3, annex.

[302] See resolution 55/2.

[303] See resolution 60/1.

[304] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[305] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[306] Resolution 63/239, annex.

[307] Resolution 63/303, annex.

[308] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2006, Supplement No. 7* and corrigenda (E/2006/27 and Corr.1 and 2), chap I, sect. D.

Reaffirming that gender equality is of fundamental importance for achieving sustained and inclusive economic growth, poverty eradication and sustainable development, in accordance with the relevant General Assembly resolutions and United Nations conferences, and that investing in the development of women and girls has a multiplier effect, in particular on productivity, efficiency and sustained and inclusive economic growth, in all sectors of the economy, especially in key areas such as agriculture, industry and services,

Reaffirming also the significant contribution that women make to the economy, that women are key contributors to the economy and to combating poverty and inequalities through both remunerated and unremunerated work at home, in the community and in the workplace and that the empowerment of women is a critical factor in the eradication of poverty,

Recognizing that the difficult socio-economic conditions that exist in many developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, have contributed to the feminization of poverty,

Expressing deep concern over the disproportionate negative impact on women of the multiple interrelated and mutually exacerbating current global crises, in particular the world financial and economic crisis, the volatile energy prices, the food crisis and the challenges posed by climate change,

Noting that gender biases in labour markets and women's lack of control over their own labour and earned income are also major factors in women's vulnerability to poverty and, together with women's disproportionate responsibilities for domestic work, result in a lack of economic autonomy and influence in economic decision-making within households and in society at all levels,

Recognizing that population and development issues, education and training, health, nutrition, the environment, water supply, sanitation, housing, communications, science and technology and decent employment opportunities are important elements for effective poverty eradication and the advancement and empowerment of women,

Welcoming its resolution 63/311 of 14 September 2009, in particular the provisions on strengthening the institutional arrangements for support of gender equality and the empowerment of women, reaffirming its strong support expressed therein for the consolidation of the Office of the Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women, the Division for the Advancement of Women, the United Nations Development Fund for Women and the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women into a composite entity, taking into account the existing mandates, to be led by an Under-Secretary-General, and looking forward to the full implementation of resolution 63/311,

Recognizing, in this context, the importance of respect for all human rights, including the right to development, and of a national and international environment that promotes, inter alia, justice, gender equality, equity, civil and political participation and civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights and fundamental freedoms for the advancement and empowerment of women,

Reaffirming the need to eliminate gender disparities in primary and secondary education by the earliest possible date and at all levels by 2015, and reaffirming that equal access to education and training at all levels, in particular in business, trade, administration, information and communications technology and other new technologies, and fulfilment of the need to eliminate gender inequalities at all levels, are essential for gender equality, the empowerment of women and poverty eradication and to allow women's full and equal contribution to, and equal opportunity to benefit from, development,

Recognizing that poverty eradication and the achievement and preservation of peace are mutually reinforcing, and recognizing also that peace is inextricably linked to equality between women and men and to development,

Aware that, while globalization and liberalization processes have created employment opportunities for women in many countries, they have also made some women, especially in developing countries and in particular in the least developed countries, more vulnerable to problems caused by increased economic volatility, including in the agricultural sector, and that special support, particularly for women who are small-scale farmers, and empowerment are necessary to enable them to take advantage of the opportunities arising from agricultural market liberalization,

Recognizing that enhanced trade opportunities for developing countries, including through trade liberalization, will improve the economic condition of their societies, including women, which is of particular importance in rural communities,

Expressing its concern that, while women represent an important and growing proportion of business owners, their contribution to economic and social development is constrained by, inter alia, the denial and lack of equal rights and their lack of access to legal aid, education, training, information, support services and credit facilities including salaries, and control over land, capital, technology and other areas of production,

Expressing its concern also regarding the underrepresentation of women in political and economic decision-making, and stressing the importance of mainstreaming a gender perspective in the formulation, implementation and evaluation of all policies and programmes, including in conflict prevention and fragile situations and in post-conflict peacebuilding, *Noting* the importance of the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, in particular its funds and programmes, and the specialized agencies, in facilitating the advancement of women in development,

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General;[309]

2. *Calls upon* Member States, the United Nations system and other international and regional organizations, within their respective mandates, and all sectors of civil society, including non-governmental organizations, as well as all women and men, to fully commit themselves and to intensify their contributions to the implementation of the Beijing Declaration[300] and Platform for Action[301] and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly;[302]

3. *Recognizes* the mutually reinforcing links between gender equality and poverty eradication and the achievement of all of the Millennium Development Goals, as well as the need to elaborate and implement, where appropriate, in consultation with civil society, comprehensive gender-sensitive poverty eradication strategies that address social, structural and macroeconomic issues;

4. *Emphasizes* the need to link policies on economic and social development to ensure that all people, including those in poor and vulnerable groups, benefit from inclusive economic growth and development, in accordance with the goals of the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development;[304]

5. *Urges* Member States, non-governmental organizations and the United Nations system to accelerate further efforts to increase the number of women in decision-making and to build their capacity as agents of change, and to empower women to participate actively and effectively in the development, implementation and evaluation of national development and/or poverty eradication policies, strategies and programmes, including, where appropriate, programme-based approaches;

6. *Stresses* the importance of the adoption by Member States, international organizations, including the United Nations, the private sector, non-governmental organizations, trade unions and other stakeholders of appropriate measures to identify and address the negative impacts of the economic and financial crisis on women and girls and of maintaining adequate levels of funding for the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of women;

7. *Also stresses* the importance of the creation by Member States, international organizations, including the United Nations, the private sector, non-governmental organizations, trade unions and other stakeholders of a favourable and conducive national and international environment in all areas of life for the effective integration of women in development, and of their undertaking and disseminating a gender analysis of policies and programmes related to macroeconomic stability, structural reform, taxation, investments, including foreign direct investment, and all relevant sectors of the economy;

8. *Urges* the donor community, Member States, international organizations, including the United Nations, the private sector, non-governmental organizations, trade unions and other stakeholders to strengthen the focus and impact of development assistance targeting gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls through gender mainstreaming, the funding of targeted activities and enhanced dialogue between donors and partners, and to also strengthen the mechanisms needed to effectively measure the resources allocated to incorporating gender perspectives in all areas of development assistance;

9. *Urges* Member States, non-governmental organizations and the United Nations system to accelerate further their efforts to increase the number of women in economic decision-making bodies, including at the highest levels in the relevant government ministries, international organizations, corporate boards and the banking sector, as well as to improve the collection, compilation, dissemination and use of data on women's participation in economic decision-making bodies;

10. *Urges* Member States to incorporate a gender perspective, commensurate with gender equality goals, into the design, implementation, monitoring and reporting of national development strategies, and to encourage the involvement of men and boys in the promotion of gender equality, and in this regard calls upon the United Nations system to support national efforts to develop methodologies and tools and to promote capacity-building and evaluation;

11. *Calls upon* Member States to integrate a gender perspective into the design, implementation, monitoring, evaluation and reporting of national environmental policies, and to strengthen mechanisms and provide adequate resources to ensure women's full and equal participation in decision-making at all levels on environmental issues, in particular on strategies related to the impact of climate change on the lives of women and girls;

12. *Encourages* Member States to ensure inclusive and more effective participation of national mechanisms for gender equality and women's empowerment in formulating national development strategies, including strategies aimed at eradicating poverty and reducing inequalities, and calls upon the United Nations system to support national efforts in this regard;

13. *Calls upon* Member States to continue to increase women's representation and participation in government decision-making at all levels in development policy areas in

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[309] A/64/93 and A/64/162 and Corr.1.

order to ensure that the priorities, needs and contributions of women are taken into consideration by, inter alia, providing access to training, developing measures to reconcile family and professional responsibilities and eliminating gender stereotyping in appointments and promotions;

14. *Expresses deep concern* about the pervasiveness of violence against women and girls, reiterates the need to further intensify efforts to prevent and eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls, and recognizes that violence against women and girls is one of the obstacles to the achievement of the objectives of equality, development and peace and that women's poverty and the lack of political, social and economic empowerment, as well as their marginalization, may result from their exclusion from social policies for and benefits of sustainable development and can place them at increased risk of violence;

15. *Recognizes* the need to strengthen the capacity of Governments to incorporate a gender perspective into policies and decision-making, and encourages all Governments, international organizations, including the United Nations system, and other relevant stakeholders to assist and support the efforts of developing countries in integrating a gender perspective into all aspects of policymaking, including through the provision of technical assistance and financial resources;

16. *Encourages* Governments, the private sector, non-governmental organizations and other actors of civil society to promote and protect the rights of women workers, to take action to remove structural and legal barriers as well as stereotypic attitudes towards gender equality at work and to initiate positive steps to promote equal pay for equal work or work of equal value;

17. *Urges* Governments to develop and adequately resource active labour-market policies on full and productive employment and decent work for all, including the full participation of women and men in both rural and urban areas;

18. *Calls upon* Governments to strengthen efforts to protect the rights of, and ensure decent work conditions for, domestic workers, including migrant women, in relation to, inter alia, working hours, conditions and wages, access to health-care services and other social and economic benefits;

19. *Encourages* Member States to adopt and/or review and to fully implement gender-sensitive legislation and policies that reduce, through specifically targeted measures, horizontal and vertical occupational segregation and gender-based wage gaps;

20. *Urges* all Member States to undertake a gender analysis of national labour laws and standards and to establish gender-sensitive policies and guidelines for employment practices, including for transnational corporations, with particular attention to export-processing zones, building in this regard on multilateral instruments, including the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[310] and Conventions of the International Labour Organization;

21. *Also urges* all Member States to take all appropriate measures to eliminate discrimination against women with regard to their access to financial services, including bank loans, bank accounts, mortgages and other forms of financial credit, giving special attention to poor, uneducated women, to support women's access to legal assistance and to encourage the financial sector to mainstream gender perspectives in their policies and programmes;

22. *Recognizes* the role of microfinance, including microcredit, in the eradication of poverty, the empowerment of women and the generation of employment, notes in this regard the importance of sound national financial systems, and encourages the strengthening of existing and emerging microcredit institutions and their capacities, including through the support of international financial institutions;

23. *Urges* Governments to ensure that microfinance programmes focus on developing savings products that are safe, convenient and accessible to women in their efforts and support women's efforts to retain control over their savings;

24. *Urges* all Governments to eliminate discrimination against women in the field of education and ensure their equal access to all levels of education;

25. *Stresses* the importance of developing national strategies for the promotion of sustainable and productive entrepreneurial activities that will generate income among disadvantaged women and women living in poverty;

26. *Urges* Member States to encourage women entrepreneurs, including through education, vocational training and training of women in business, administration and information and communications technology, and invites business associations to assist national efforts in this regard;

27. *Encourages* Governments to create a climate that is conducive to increasing the number of women entrepreneurs and the size of their businesses by giving them greater access to financial instruments, providing training and advisory services, facilitating networking and information-sharing and increasing their participation in advisory boards and other forums so as to enable them to contribute to the formulation and review of policies and programmes being developed by financial institutions;

28. *Calls upon* Governments to promote, inter alia, through legislation and family-friendly and gender-sensitive work environments, the facilitation of breastfeeding for working mothers and the provision of the necessary care for working

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[310] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

women's children and other dependants and to consider promoting policies and programmes, as appropriate, to enable men and women to reconcile their work, social and family responsibilities;

29. *Encourages* Member States to adopt and implement legislation and policies to promote the reconciliation of work and family responsibilities, including through increased flexibility in working arrangements such as part-time work, and to ensure that both women and men have access to maternity, paternity, parental and other forms of leave and are not discriminated against when availing themselves of such benefits;

30. *Urges* Member States to adopt and review legislation and policies to ensure women's equal access to and control over land, housing and other property, including through inheritance, land reform programmes and land markets, and to take measures to implement those laws and policies;

31. *Urges* Governments to take measures to facilitate equitable access to land and property rights by providing training designed to make the judicial, legislative and administrative system more responsive to gender equality issues, to provide legal aid for women seeking to claim their rights, to support the efforts of women's groups and networks and to carry out awareness campaigns to draw attention to the need for women's equal rights to land and property;

32. *Recognizes* the need to empower women, particularly poor women, economically and politically, and in this regard encourages Governments, with the support of their development partners, to invest in appropriate infrastructure and other projects, including the provision of water and sanitation to rural areas and urban slums to increase health and well-being, relieve the workloads of women and girls and release their time and energy for other productive activities, including entrepreneurship;

33. *Also recognizes* the role of agriculture in development, and stresses the importance of reviewing agricultural policies and strategies to ensure that women's critical role in food security is recognized and addressed as an integral part of both short- and long-term responses to the food crisis;

34. *Expresses its concern* at the overall expansion and feminization of the HIV/AIDS pandemic and the fact that women and girls bear a disproportionate share of the burden imposed by HIV/AIDS, that they are more easily infected, that they play a key role in care and that they have become more vulnerable to violence, stigmatization and discrimination, poverty and marginalization from their families and communities as a result of HIV/AIDS, and calls upon Governments and the international community to intensify efforts towards achieving the goal of universal access to comprehensive HIV prevention programmes, treatment, care and support by 2010 and of having halted and begun to reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS by 2015;

35. *Reaffirms* the commitment to achieve universal access to reproductive health by 2015, as set out at the International Conference on Population and Development,[311] by integrating this goal into strategies to attain the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration[302] aimed at reducing maternal mortality, improving maternal health, reducing child mortality, promoting gender equality, combating HIV/AIDS and eradicating poverty;

36. *Recognizes* that there is a need for all donors to maintain and deliver on their existing bilateral and multilateral official development assistance commitments and targets, and that the full implementation of these commitments will substantially boost resources available to push forward the international development agenda;

37. *Expresses deep concern* that maternal health remains one area constrained by some of the largest health inequities in the world, and over the uneven progress in improving child and maternal health, and in this context calls upon States to renew their commitment to preventing and eliminating child and maternal mortality and morbidity;

38. *Encourages* the international community, the United Nations system, the private sector and civil society to continue to provide the necessary financial resources to assist national Governments in their efforts to meet the development targets and benchmarks agreed upon at the World Summit for Social Development, the Fourth World Conference on Women, the International Conference on Population and Development, the Millennium Summit, the International Conference on Financing for Development, the World Summit on Sustainable Development, the Second World Assembly on Ageing, the twenty-third and twenty-fourth special sessions of the General Assembly and other relevant United Nations conferences and summits;

39. *Urges* multilateral donors, and invites international financial institutions, within their respective mandates, and regional development banks to review and implement policies that support national efforts to ensure that a higher proportion of resources reaches women, in particular in rural and remote areas;

40. *Stresses* the importance of collecting and exchanging all relevant information needed on the role of women in development, including data on international migration, as well as the need to develop statistics

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[311] See *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5–13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18).

disaggregated by age and sex, and in that regard encourages developed countries and relevant entities of the United Nations to provide support and assistance to developing countries, upon their request, with respect to establishing, developing and strengthening their databases and information systems;

41. *Recognizes* the critical role and contribution of rural women, including indigenous women, and their traditional knowledge, in enhancing agricultural and rural development, improving food security and eradicating rural poverty;

42. *Calls upon* all organizations of the United Nations system, within their organizational mandates, to mainstream a gender perspective and to pursue gender equality in their country programmes, planning instruments and sector-wide programmes and to articulate specific country-level goals and targets in this domain in accordance with national development strategies;

43. *Calls upon* the organizations of the United Nations development system, within their organizational mandates, to further improve their institutional accountability mechanisms and to include intergovernmentally agreed gender-equality results and gender-sensitive indicators in their strategic frameworks;

44. *Calls upon* the United Nations system to integrate gender mainstreaming into all its programmes and policies, including in the integrated follow-up to United Nations conferences, in accordance with agreed conclusions 1997/2 on gender mainstreaming adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 1997;[312]

45. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session a report on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution, including on integrating a gender perspective into national development strategies;

46. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to update the *2009 World Survey on the Role of Women in Development*[313] for consideration by the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session, noting that the survey should continue to focus on selective emerging development themes that have an impact on the role of women in the economy at the national, regional and international levels;

47. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-sixth session the sub-item entitled "Women in development".

RESOLUTION 64/218

Adopted at the 66th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/424/Add.3, para. 8)[314]

64/218. Human resources development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 52/196 of 18 December 1997, 54/211 of 22 December 1999, 56/189 of 21 December 2001, 58/207 of 23 December 2003, 60/211 of 22 December 2005 and 62/207 of 19 December 2007,

Stressing that human resources development is key to the efforts to achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and to expand opportunities for people, in particular for the most vulnerable groups of the population,

Stressing also that health and education are at the core of human resources development,

Welcoming the considerable efforts made over the years, yet recognizing that many countries continue to face formidable challenges in developing a sufficient pool of human resources capable of meeting national economic and social needs and that the formulation and implementation of effective human resources strategies often require resources and capacities not always available in developing countries,

Recognizing that the adverse impacts of the global financial and economic crisis will further diminish the ability of many countries, especially developing countries, to cope with and address human resources development challenges and to formulate and implement effective strategies for poverty eradication and sustainable development,

Stressing that human resources development is even more critical in the current global financial and economic crisis in order to mitigate the worst effects of the crisis and set the basis for future and sustainable recovery,

Acknowledging the important nexus between international migration and development and the need to deal with the challenges and opportunities that migration presents to countries of origin, transition and destination, recognizing that migration brings benefits as well as challenges to the global community, and stressing that the brain drain continues to be a severe problem in many developing and transitioning countries, undermining efforts in the area of human resources development,

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[312] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 3* and addendum (A/52/3/Rev.1 and Rev.1/Add.1), chap. IV, sect. A, para. 4.

[313] United Nations publication, Sales No. E.09.IV.7.

[314] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee.

Reaffirming that gender equality is of fundamental importance for achieving sustained economic growth, poverty eradication and sustainable development, in accordance with the relevant General Assembly resolutions and United Nations conferences, and that investing in the development of women and girls has a multiplier effect, in particular on productivity, efficiency and sustained economic growth, in all sectors of the economy, especially in key areas such as agriculture, industry and services,

Recognizing that education is the key to promoting the development of human potential, equality and understanding among peoples, as well as to sustaining economic growth and eradicating poverty, and recognizing also that, to achieve those ends, it is essential that quality education be available to all, including indigenous peoples, girls and women, rural inhabitants and persons with disabilities,

Stressing that Governments have the primary responsibility for defining and implementing appropriate policies for human resources development and the need for greater support from the international community for the national efforts of developing countries,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[315]

2. *Stresses* the need for Member States to emphasize and integrate human resources development into national development strategies, including national development policies and strategies to eradicate poverty and achieve the Millennium Development Goals, in order to ensure that human resources development implications are taken into account by all national development stakeholders;

3. *Encourages* Member States to adopt and implement comprehensive human resources development strategies premised on national development objectives that ensure a strong link between education, training and employment, help to maintain a productive and competitive workforce and are responsive to the needs of the economy;

4. *Stresses* that investment in human resources development should be an integral part of national development policies and strategies, and in this regard calls for the adoption of policies to facilitate investment focused on infrastructure and capacity development, including education, health and science and technology, including information and communications technology;

5. *Encourages* Member States to continue to strengthen social protection systems and to adopt policies that strengthen existing safety nets, protect vulnerable groups and boost domestic consumption and production especially to cushion the effect of the crisis and prevent people from falling into poverty, acknowledges in this regard that many developing countries lack the necessary financial resources and capacity to implement such countercyclical measures, and recognizes the need for continued mobilization of additional domestic and international resources, as appropriate;

6. *Emphasizes* the need for Member States to adopt cross-sectoral approaches and mechanisms to identify human resources development needs in the medium and long term for all sectors of the economy and to formulate and implement policies and programmes to address those needs;

7. *Calls upon* the international community to assist developing countries in the implementation of national human resources development strategies, and encourages the international community to provide financial resources, capacity-building, technical assistance and transfer of technology, as appropriate and on mutually agreed terms;

8. *Calls upon* the international community, including the entities of the United Nations system, to support the efforts of developing countries to address the adverse effects of HIV/AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis and other infectious diseases on their human resources, in particular in Africa;

9. *Stresses* that sustainable development is dependent, inter alia, on healthy human resources, calls upon Member States to continue their efforts to strengthen national health systems, urges the further strengthening of international cooperation in the area of health, inter alia, through the exchange of best practices in the areas of health system strengthening, access to medicines, training of health personnel, transfer of technology and production of affordable, safe, effective and good-quality medicine, and in this regard stresses that international cooperation and assistance, in particular external funding, need to become more predictable and to be better aligned with national priorities and channelled to recipient countries in ways that strengthen national health systems;

10. *Encourages* efforts by Member States and the international community to promote a balanced, coherent and comprehensive approach to international migration and development, in particular by building partnerships and ensuring coordinated action to develop capacities, including for the management of migration, and in this regard reiterates the need to consider how the migration of highly skilled persons and those with advanced education affects the development efforts of developing countries;

11. *Calls for* steps to integrate gender perspectives into human resources development, including through policies, strategies and targeted actions aimed at promoting women's capacities and access to productive activities, and in this regard emphasizes the need to ensure the full

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[315] A/64/329.

participation of women in the formulation and implementation of such policies, strategies and actions;

12. *Stresses* the important contributions of the public and private sectors, respectively, in meeting national training and education needs to support the efficient functioning of enterprises and matching the needs of a rapidly changing economy, and encourages the integration of those contributions, including through the greater use of public-private partnerships and incentives;

13. *Calls for* actions at the national, regional and international levels that will give high priority to improving and expanding literacy, as well as science proficiency, including by providing tertiary, technical-vocational and adult education, and stresses the need to ensure that, by 2015, children everywhere, boys and girls alike, will be able to complete a full course of primary schooling and will have equal access to all levels of education;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session a report that reviews lessons learned from the global financial and economic crisis on the requirements for human resources development to help countries to prevent and overcome the negative effects of crises and progress towards a more sustainable path of development;

15. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-sixth session, under the item entitled "Eradication of poverty and other development issues", the sub-item entitled "Human resources development".

RESOLUTION 64/219

Adopted at the 66th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/425, para. 8)[316]

64/219. Appointment of the Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 2211 (XXI) of 17 December 1966, in response to which a trust fund, subsequently renamed the United Nations Population Fund, was established in 1967 by the Secretary-General,

Recalling also its resolution 3019 (XXVII) of 18 December 1972, in which it placed the United Nations Population Fund under its authority as a subsidiary organ, in accordance with Article 22 of the Charter of the United Nations, taking into account the separate identity of the Fund,

1. *Notes* that, since the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme ceased to perform the administrative role with respect to the United Nations Population Fund, no formal procedure has been established for the appointment of the Executive Director of the Fund;

2. *Decides* that the secretariat of the United Nations Population Fund shall continue to be headed by an Executive Director at the Under-Secretary-General level;

3. *Also decides* that the Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund shall be appointed by the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund, for a term of four years.

RESOLUTION 64/220

Adopted at the 66th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/425/Add.1, para. 8)[317]

64/220. Operational activities for development of the United Nations system

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 62/208 of 19 December 2007 on the triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system,

Reaffirming the importance of the triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development, through which the General Assembly establishes key system-wide policy orientations for development cooperation and country-level modalities of the United Nations system,

Recalling the role of the Economic and Social Council in providing coordination and guidance to the United Nations system to ensure that those policy orientations are implemented on a system-wide basis in accordance with General Assembly resolution 62/208,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the comprehensive statistical analysis of the financing of operational activities for development of the United Nations system for 2007,[318] and notes the progress made in broadening and improving the reporting, in line with paragraph 28 of its resolution 62/208;

2. *Also takes note* of the report on the activities of the United Nations Development Fund for Women;[319]

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[316] The draft resolution recommended in the report of the Committee was submitted by the Economic and Social Council.

[317] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee.

[318] A/64/75-E/2009/59.

[319] See A/64/164 and Corr.1.

3. *Further takes note* of the report of the Joint Inspection Unit on the national execution of technical cooperation projects, and of the comments of the Secretary-General and the member organizations of the United Nations system thereon;[320]

4. *Takes note* of Economic and Social Council decision 2009/214 of 22 July 2009 on operational activities for development and its resolution 2009/1 of 22 July 2009 on progress in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 62/208, and expresses appreciation for the guidance provided by the Council on the further implementation of resolution 62/208 as contained therein;

5. *Recalls* General Assembly resolution 63/232 of 19 December 2008, in which it decided to hold its next comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system in 2012 and subsequent reviews on a quadrennial basis, and requests the Secretary-General to postpone to its sixty-seventh session the submission, through the Economic and Social Council, of the comprehensive analysis of the implementation of Assembly resolution 62/208 to be prepared in accordance with the guidance contained in paragraph 143 thereof.[321]

RESOLUTION 64/221

Adopted at the 66th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/425/Add.2, para. 8)[322]

64/221. South-South cooperation

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 33/134 of 19 December 1978, in which it endorsed the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries,[323]

Recalling its resolutions 57/270 B of 23 June 2003, 60/212 of 22 December 2005, 62/209 of 19 December 2007, 63/233 of 19 December 2008, 64/1 of 6 October 2009 and other resolutions relevant to South-South cooperation,

Recalling also the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[324]

Welcoming with appreciation the generous offer of the Government of Kenya to host the High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the state of South-South cooperation;[325]

2. *Decides* to hold the sixteenth session of the High-level Committee on South-South Cooperation on 4 February 2010, preceded by an organizational meeting on 21 January 2010 to elect the President and Bureau of the sixteenth session of the High-level Committee;

3. *Also decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-sixth session the sub-item entitled "South-South Cooperation for development", and requests the Secretary-General to submit at that session a comprehensive report of the state of South-South cooperation for development.

RESOLUTION 64/223

Adopted at the 66th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/426, para. 10)[326]

64/223. Towards global partnerships

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 55/215 of 21 December 2000, 56/76 of 11 December 2001, 58/129 of 19 December 2003, 60/215 of 22 December 2005 and 62/211 of 19 December 2007,

Reaffirming the vital role of the United Nations, including the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, in the promotion of partnerships in the context of globalization,

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[320] See A/64/375-E/2009/103 and Corr.1 and Add.1.

[321] See Economic and Social Council decision 2009/214.

[322] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee.

[323] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, Buenos Aires, 30 August–12 September 1978* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.78.II.A.11 and corrigendum), chap. I.

[324] See resolution 60/1.

[325] A/64/321.

[326] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Angola, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, Colombia, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Mozambique, Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay and Zambia.

Underlining the intergovernmental nature of the United Nations, and the central role and responsibility of Governments in national and international policymaking,

Reaffirming its resolve to create an environment, at the national and global levels alike, that is conducive to sustainable economic development, poverty alleviation and environmental sustainability,

Taking note of the continuing increase in the number of public-private partnerships worldwide,

Recalling the objectives formulated in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[327] notably the Millennium Development Goals, and the reaffirmation they received in the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[328] particularly in regard to developing partnerships through the provision of greater opportunities to the private sector, non-governmental organizations and civil society in general so as to enable them to contribute to the realization of the goals and programmes of the Organization, in particular in the pursuit of development and the eradication of poverty,

Recalling also the 2005 World Summit encouragement to pursue responsible business practices,

Underlining the fact that cooperation between the United Nations and all relevant partners, including the private sector, shall serve the purposes and principles embodied in the Charter of the United Nations, can make concrete contributions to the realization of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, as well as the outcomes of major United Nations conferences and summits and their reviews, in particular in the area of development and the eradication of poverty, and shall be undertaken in a manner that maintains the integrity, impartiality and independence of the Organization,

Underlining also the importance of the contribution of the private sector, non-governmental organizations and civil society to the implementation of the outcomes of United Nations conferences in the economic, social and related fields,

Reiterating that maintaining a comprehensive and diverse multi-stakeholder follow-up process to the 2002 International Conference on Financing for Development and the 2008 Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development, including with civil society and the private sector, is critical, bearing in mind the core responsibility of all participants in the financing for development process to exercise ownership of it and to implement their respective commitments in an integrated fashion, and welcoming in this regard the active participation of civil society and private-sector entities,

Recognizing the need, where appropriate, for enhancing the capacity of Member States for their effective participation in partnerships, at all levels, in accordance with national priorities and national legislation, and encouraging international support for such efforts in developing countries,

Emphasizing that all relevant partners, including the private sector, can contribute in several ways to addressing the obstacles confronted by developing countries in mobilizing the resources needed to finance their sustainable development and to the realization of the development goals of the United Nations through, inter alia, financial resources, access to technology, management expertise and support for programmes, including through the reduced pricing of drugs, where appropriate, for the prevention, care and treatment of HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis and other diseases,

Welcoming the efforts and encouraging further efforts by all relevant partners, including the private sector, to engage as reliable and consistent partners in the development process and to take into account not only the economic and financial, but also the developmental, social, human rights, gender and environmental implications of their undertakings and, in general, towards accepting and implementing corporate social and environmental responsibility, that is, bringing such values and responsibilities to bear on their conduct and policy premised on profit incentives, in conformity with national laws and regulations,

Underlining the fact that, in the face of the current multiple, interrelated global crises and challenges, such as the financial and economic crisis, the food crisis, volatile energy and commodity prices, and climate change, cooperation and increased commitment by all relevant partners, including the public sector, the private sector and civil society, are needed more than ever, and recognizing, in this context, the potential that partnerships have in contributing to the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Reaffirming the principles of sustainable development, and underlining the need for a global consensus on the key values and principles that will promote sustainable, fair and equitable economic development, and that corporate social and environmental responsibility are important elements of such a consensus,

Noting that the financial and economic crisis has demonstrated the need for values and principles in business, including for sustainable business practices, which in turn has led to broader private sector engagement in support of United Nations goals,

Recognizing the importance of promoting a gender perspective in global partnerships,

Taking note of the Principles for Responsible Investment initiative, created to help investors to integrate environmental, social and corporate governance issues into investment decisions, and the Principles for Responsible Management Education initiative, which seeks to embed corporate responsibility principles in business school curricula and research,

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[327] See resolution 55/2.

[328] See resolution 60/1.

Welcoming the continuous efforts by the Commission on Sustainable Development, through its secretariat, to promote partnerships for sustainable development, inter alia, by the implementation and expansion of an interactive online database as a platform to provide access to information on partnerships and to facilitate the exchange of experiences and best practices and by the regular holding of partnership fairs at the sessions of the Commission,

Taking note with appreciation of the progress achieved in the work of the United Nations on partnerships, notably in the framework of various United Nations organizations, agencies, funds, programmes, task forces, commissions and initiatives, such as the Global Compact, launched by the Secretary-General, the Global Alliance for Information and Communication Technologies and Development[329] and the United Nations Fund for International Partnerships, and welcoming the establishment of a multitude of partnerships at the field level, entered into by various United Nations agencies, non-public partners and Member States, such as the United Nations Public-Private Alliance for Rural Development,

Recognizing the vital role the Global Compact Office continues to play with regard to strengthening the capacity of the United Nations to partner strategically with the private sector in accordance with its General Assembly mandate,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on enhanced cooperation between the United Nations and all relevant partners, in particular the private sector;[330]

2. *Stresses* that partnerships are voluntary and collaborative relationships between various parties, both public and non-public, in which all participants agree to work together to achieve a common purpose or undertake a specific task and, as mutually agreed, to share risks and responsibilities, resources and benefits;

3. *Also stresses* the importance of the contribution of voluntary partnerships to the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, while reiterating that they are a complement to, but not intended to substitute for, the commitment made by Governments with a view to achieving these goals;

4. *Further stresses* that partnerships should be consistent with national laws and national development strategies and plans, as well as the priorities of countries where their implementation takes place, bearing in mind the relevant guidance provided by Governments;

5. *Emphasizes* the vital role played by Governments in promoting responsible business practices, including providing the necessary legal and regulatory frameworks, where appropriate;

6. *Recalls* that the 2005 World Summit welcomed the positive contributions of the private sector and civil society, including non-governmental organizations, in the promotion and implementation of development and human rights programmes, and also recalls that the 2005 World Summit resolved to enhance the contribution of non-governmental organizations, civil society, the private sector and other stakeholders in national development efforts, as well as in the promotion of the global partnership for development, and encouraged public-private partnerships in the following areas: the generation of new investments and employment, financing for development, health, agriculture, conservation, sustainable use of natural resources and environmental management, energy, forestry and the impact of climate change;

7. *Recognizes* the role that public-private partnerships can play in efforts to eradicate poverty and hunger, and in improving health as well as contributing to the implementation of national strategies and action plans, inter alia, on social services delivery and in making progress towards more equitable health outcomes, bearing in mind the need to ensure that their activities conform fully with the principle of national ownership of development strategies, and also recognizes the need for effective accountability and transparency in their implementation;

8. *Calls upon* the international community to continue to promote multi-stakeholder approaches in addressing the challenges of development in the context of globalization;

9. *Encourages* the United Nations system to continue to develop, for those partnerships in which it participates, a common and systemic approach, which places greater emphasis on impact, transparency, accountability and sustainability, without imposing undue rigidity in partnership agreements, and with due consideration being given to the following partnership principles: common purpose, transparency, bestowing no unfair advantages upon any partner of the United Nations, mutual benefit and mutual respect, accountability, respect for the modalities of the United Nations, striving for balanced representation of relevant partners from developed and developing countries and countries with economies in transition, sectoral and geographic balance, and not compromising the independence and neutrality of the United Nations;

10. *Takes note with appreciation* of the efforts of the Secretary-General to streamline and update the United Nations guidelines for partnerships between the United Nations and the private sector, including through the approval of the revised Guidelines on Cooperation between the United Nations and the Business Sector;

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[329] A/62/89-E/2007/76, annex.

[330] A/64/337.

11. *Invites* the United Nations, when considering partnerships, to seek to engage in a more coherent manner with private sector entities that support the core values of the United Nations as reflected in the Charter and other relevant conventions and treaties and that commit to the principles of the Global Compact by translating them into operational corporate policies, codes of conduct and management, monitoring and reporting systems;

12. *Calls upon* United Nations entities to ensure that information on the nature and scope of partnership arrangements with the private sector is available within the United Nations system, as well as to Member States and the public at large, so as to enhance transparency;

13. *Encourages* the Global Compact to continue its activities as an innovative public-private partnership to advance United Nations values and responsible business practices within the United Nations system and among the global business community, including through an increased number of local networks;

14. *Acknowledges* the positive contribution of the Global Compact and its ten principles in the promotion of responsible business practices;

15. *Takes note with interest* of the decision of the Secretary-General to hold an annual Private Sector Forum, beginning with the United Nations Private Sector Forum in September 2008, focusing on food sustainability and achieving the Millennium Development Goals, and followed by the United Nations Leadership Forum on Climate Change in September 2009;

16. *Welcomes* the collaboration between the African Private Sector Forum and the Global Compact, and encourages the strengthening of this partnership in conjunction with the Commission of the African Union to support the development of the African private sector, the promotion of public-private partnership projects and the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals in line with the relevant executive decisions of the African Union;

17. *Welcomes* the establishment of the Global Compact Regional Centre for Latin America and the Caribbean in Bogotá, aiming at providing support to the Global Compact Local Networks and at promoting social and environmental responsibility and public-private partnerships for development in the region;

18. *Acknowledges* the ongoing work of the United Nations on partnerships, notably in the framework of various United Nations organizations, agencies, funds, programmes, task forces and commissions, within their respective mandates, and in this regard encourages the provision of adequate training, as appropriate;

19. *Encourages* the relevant United Nations organizations and agencies to share relevant lessons learned and positive experiences from partnerships, including with the business community, as a contribution to the development of more effective United Nations partnerships;

20. *Takes note with appreciation* of the efforts of the Secretary-General to enhance partnership management through the promotion of adequate training at all levels concerned, institutional capacity in country offices, strategic focus and local ownership, the sharing of best practices and the improvement of partner selection processes, calls upon United Nations entities that engage the private sector as partners in their work to develop the policy frameworks and institutional capacities needed for engagement in a mutually beneficial way, and encourages the further development of United Nations private sector focal points for the purposes of learning and sharing best practices and information;

21. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with Member States, to promote, within existing resources, impact-assessment mechanisms of partnerships, taking into account best tools available, in order to enable effective management, ensure accountability and facilitate effective learning from both successes and failures;

22. *Welcomes* innovative approaches to using partnerships as a means to better implement goals and programmes, in particular in support of the pursuit of development and the eradication of poverty, encourages relevant United Nations bodies and agencies, and invites the Bretton Woods institutions and the World Trade Organization to further explore such possibilities, bearing in mind their different mandates, modes of operation and objectives, as well as the particular roles of the non-public partners involved;

23. *Recommends*, in this context, that partnerships should also foster the elimination of all forms of discrimination, including on gender grounds, in respect of employment and occupation;

24. *Reiterates its call upon*:

(*a*) All bodies within the United Nations system that engage in partnerships to ensure the integrity and independence of the Organization and to include information on partnerships in their regular reporting, as appropriate, on their websites and through other means;

(*b*) Partners to provide to and exchange relevant information with Governments, other stakeholders and the relevant United Nations agencies and bodies and other international organizations with which they engage, in an appropriate way, including through reports, with particular attention to the importance of sharing among partnerships information on their practical experience;

25. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 64/224

Adopted at the 66th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/427, para. 12)[331]

64/224. Agriculture development and food security

The General Assembly,

Welcoming the establishment of the agenda item and the discussions that have been undertaken on agriculture development and food security in the General Assembly,

Welcoming also the convening of the World Summit on Food Security in Rome from 16 to 18 November 2009,

Recalling the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[332] Agenda 21,[333] the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,[334] the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[335] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),[336] the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,[337] the 2005 World Summit Outcome[338] and the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development: outcome document of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus,[339]

Reaffirming the goal set out in paragraph 19 of the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[340] to halve, by 2015, the proportion of the world's people whose income is less than one dollar a day and the proportion of people who suffer from hunger,

Recalling the Rome Declaration on World Food Security and the World Food Summit Plan of Action,[341] the Declaration of the World Food Summit: five years later,[342] including the goal of achieving food security for all through an ongoing effort to eradicate hunger in all countries, with an immediate view to reducing by half the number of undernourished people by no later than 2015, as well as the commitment to achieving the Millennium Development Goals,

Welcoming the outcome of the seventeenth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development on the thematic cluster of issues on agriculture, rural development, land, drought, desertification and Africa,[343]

Recognizing that agriculture plays a crucial role in addressing the needs of a growing global population and is inextricably linked to poverty eradication, especially in developing countries, and stressing that integrated and sustainable agriculture and rural development approaches are therefore essential to achieving enhanced food security and food safety in an environmentally sustainable way,

Expressing concern that the number of people suffering from hunger and poverty now exceeds one billion, which is an unacceptable blight on the lives, livelihoods and dignity of one sixth of the world's population, mostly in developing countries, and noting that the effects of long-standing underinvestment in food security, agriculture, and rural development have recently been further exacerbated by the food, financial and economic crises, among other factors,

Striving for a world free from hunger in which countries implement the Voluntary Guidelines to Support the Progressive Realization of the Right to Adequate Food in the Context of National Food Security, adopted by the Council of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in November 2004,[344] and supporting the practical application of the guidelines based on the principles of participation, transparency and accountability,

Recognizing the importance of an enabling international and national environment to increase and sustain investment in the agriculture sector of developing countries and to create a more level playing field in agriculture through greater market access, substantial reduction of trade-distorting domestic support, and the parallel elimination of all forms of export subsidies and disciplines on all export measures with equivalent effect in accordance with the mandate from the Doha Work Programme of the World Trade Organization,

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[331] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee.

[332] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[333] Ibid., annex II.

[334] Resolution S-19/2, annex.

[335] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[336] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

[337] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[338] See resolution 60/1.

[339] Resolution 63/239, annex.

[340] See resolution 55/2.

[341] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, *Report of the World Food Summit, 13–17 November 1996* (WFS 96/REP), part one, appendix.

[342] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, *Report of the World Food Summit: five years later, 10–13 June 2002*, part one, appendix; see also A/57/499, annex.

[343] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2009, Supplement No. 9* (E/2009/29).

[344] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, *Report of the Council of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, One Hundred and Twenty-seventh Session, Rome, 22–27 November 2004* (CL 127/REP), appendix D; see also E/CN.4/2005/131, annex.

Emphasizing the urgent need to increase efforts at the national, regional and international levels to address food security and agriculture development as an integral part of the international development agenda,

Recognizing the need to foster strategic coordination for agriculture development and food security involving all actors at the national, regional and global levels to improve governance, promote better allocation of resources, avoid duplication of efforts and identify response gaps,

Recognizing also that a sense of urgency and a commitment to solving the global food crisis have served as catalysts for strengthening international coordination and governance for food security, through the Global Partnership for Agriculture, Food Security and Nutrition, of which the Committee on World Food Security is a central component, and reiterating that it is essential to enhance global governance, building on existing institutions and fostering effective partnerships,

Remaining deeply concerned at the high volatility of global food prices, including for basic food commodities, owing to, inter alia, structural and systemic problems,

Remaining deeply concerned also that the global financial and economic crisis, climate change and the food crisis pose a serious challenge to the fight against poverty and hunger, as well as to the efforts of developing countries to attain food security and achieve the objective of reducing by half the number of undernourished people by no later than 2015 as well as the other internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and reiterating that the global food crisis has multiple and complex causes and that its consequences require a comprehensive and coordinated response, including the adoption of political, economic, social, financial and technical solutions in the short, medium and long term by national Governments and the international community,

Recognizing the work undertaken by relevant international bodies and organizations, including the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Fund for Agricultural Development and the World Food Programme, on agriculture development and enhancing food security,

Acknowledging the work undertaken by the High-level Task Force on the Global Food Security Crisis,

Welcoming the recent appointment of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Food Security and Nutrition,

Taking note of the work to be undertaken, including by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the International Fund for Agricultural Development, on the follow-up to the International Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development, in view of its relevance to food security,

Noting the convening of the World Grain Forum on 6 and 7 June 2009 in St. Petersburg, Russian Federation,

Emphasizing that the United Nations can play an effective role in building a global consensus in addressing agriculture development and food security,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[345]

2. *Welcomes* the adoption of the Declaration of the World Summit on Food Security, and notes the Five Rome Principles for Sustainable Global Food Security contained in the Declaration;

3. *Stresses* that food security is central to poverty eradication, public health and sustainable economic growth, and the need for a comprehensive twin-track approach to food security that consists of direct action to immediately tackle hunger for the most vulnerable and medium- and long-term sustainable agricultural, food security, nutrition, and rural development programmes to eliminate the root causes of hunger and poverty, including through the progressive realization of the right to food;

4. *Also stresses* that achieving food security for all has as its core element the strengthening and revitalizing of the agricultural sector in developing countries, where it has been identified as a priority by Governments, including through enhanced international support, an enabling environment at all levels and the empowerment of small-scale farmers, indigenous peoples and other rural communities, and stresses the need for the involvement of women, in particular in decision-making;

5. *Underlines* the importance of enhancing synergies between agriculture, food security and development policies and strategies at both the national and international levels, including by prioritizing and mainstreaming agriculture and food security into development policies;

6. *Encourages* efforts at all levels to create a strong enabling environment for enhancing agricultural production, productivity and sustainability, developing strong agricultural value chains and improving farmers' and agro-industry access to and participation in markets;

7. *Welcomes* the strengthening of cooperation between the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Fund for Agricultural Development, the World Food Programme and all other relevant entities of the United Nations system and other intergovernmental organizations, the international financial institutions and international trade,

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[345] A/64/221.

financial and economic institutions, in accordance with their respective mandates, in order to increase their effectiveness, as well as the strengthening of cooperation with non-governmental organizations and the private sector in promoting and strengthening efforts towards agriculture development and food security;

8. *Expresses its support* for initiatives and actions to strengthen governance for agriculture development and food security and for the Global Partnership for Agriculture, Food Security and Nutrition, which will strive to achieve strategic coordination of efforts at the national, regional and global levels, building on existing structures, ensuring inclusiveness of participation and promoting a genuine bottom-up approach based on field-level experiences and developments;

9. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Committee on World Food Security, as a platform for discussion and coordination to strengthen collaborative action, to ensure that the voices of all relevant stakeholders, particularly those most affected by food insecurity, are heard, supports the important roles of the Committee, particularly in areas of coordination at the global level, policy convergence and facilitated support and advice to countries and regions, and affirms that, within the context of the implementation plan laid down in the reform of the Committee, it will gradually take on additional roles, such as promoting coordination at the national and regional levels, promoting accountability and sharing best practices at all levels, and developing a global strategic framework for food security and nutrition;

10. *Underlines* the need for sustained funding and increased targeted investment to enhance world food production, and calls for new and additional financial resources from all sources to achieve sustainable agriculture development and food security;

11. *Stresses* the urgent need to increase the share of official development assistance devoted to agriculture and food security based on country-led requests, and encourages international financial institutions and regional development banks to do likewise;

12. *Calls for* actions at the national, regional and international levels to intensify public and private investment in the agriculture sector, including through public-private partnerships;

13. *Encourages* international, regional and national efforts to strengthen the capacity of developing countries, in particular their small-scale producers, to enhance the productivity of food crops, and to promote sustainable practices in pre-harvest and post-harvest agricultural activities;

14. *Underlines* the importance of the conservation of, access to, and fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the use of genetic resources, in accordance with national law and international agreements;

15. *Reaffirms* the need to mobilize the resources needed to increase productivity, including the review, approval and adoption of biotechnology and other new technologies and innovations that are safe, effective and environmentally sustainable;

16. *Promotes* research for food and agriculture, including research to adapt to and mitigate climate change, and access to research results and technologies at national, regional and international levels, including through the international research centres of the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research, as well as other relevant international and regional research organizations;

17. *Recognizes* that appropriate, affordable and sustainable agriculture technology can play an important role in helping developing countries to eradicate poverty and hunger and achieve global food security, and calls upon the international community to make greater efforts to promote the development and transfer of appropriate technologies and know-how on mutually agreed terms to developing countries;

18. *Stresses* the importance of strengthening North-South, as well as South-South and triangular cooperation, and enhancing support from the United Nations development system in promoting cooperation in agriculture development and food security;

19. *Encourages* efforts at all levels to establish and strengthen social protection measures and programmes, including national social safety nets and protection programmes for the needy and vulnerable, such as food and cash for work, cash transfer and voucher programmes, school feeding programmes and mother-and-child nutrition programmes;

20. *Stresses* that a universal, rules-based, open, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system will promote agriculture and rural development in developing countries and contribute to world food security, and urges national, regional and international strategies to promote the participation of farmers, especially smallholders and women, in community, domestic, regional and international markets;

21. *Underlines* the importance of the provision of, and the unhindered access to, safe emergency food and humanitarian assistance and support for the most vulnerable populations, recognizes the value of local purchase of food supplies, which supports local markets, and stresses the need to remove food export restrictions or extraordinary taxes for food purchased for non-commercial humanitarian purposes, and the benefits of consultation and notification of any such new restrictions;

22. *Urges* Member States and international organizations to pursue policies and strategies that improve the functioning of domestic, regional and international markets and ensure equitable access for all, especially smallholders and women farmers from developing countries, notes the importance of non-trade-distorting special measures that are

consistent with World Trade Organization rules aimed at creating incentives for smallholder farmers in developing countries to enable them to increase their productivity and compete on a more equal footing on world markets, and urges Member States to refrain from taking measures that are inconsistent with the rules of the World Trade Organization and that have adverse impacts on global, regional and national food security;

23. *Recognizes* the urgency of, and reaffirming its commitment to, reaching a successful and timely conclusion by 2010 to the Doha Round of World Trade Organization negotiations with an ambitious, comprehensive and balanced outcome as a key action to improve food security;

24. *Also recognizes* the need for Africa to embark on a green revolution to help boost agricultural productivity, food production and regional food security, welcomes the strong leadership taken by African countries in undertaking initiatives to address the challenges of sustainable agricultural development and to achieve food security, such as the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme of the New Partnership for Africa's Development, that can provide a framework through which support for agriculture and food security can be coordinated, and calls upon the international community to support Africa in the implementation of the various programmes under the New Partnership for Africa's Development;[146]

25. *Reaffirms* the commitment to a crucial, decisive shift towards increased short-, medium- and long-term national and international investment in agriculture in developing countries, welcomes the commitment made by African leaders in the Maputo Declaration on Agriculture and Food Security in Africa to raise the share of agriculture and rural development in their budget expenditures to at least 10 per cent, and encourages other geographical regions to adopt similar quantitative, time-bound commitments;

26. *Notes*, in this regard, the adoption of the Windhoek High-level Ministerial Declaration on African Agriculture in the Twenty-first Century: Meeting the Challenges, Making a Sustainable Green Revolution, on 10 February 2009;[147]

27. *Notes* the challenges faced by indigenous peoples in the context of food security, and in this regard calls upon States to take special actions to combat the root causes of the disproportionately high level of hunger and malnutrition among indigenous peoples;

28. *Reiterates* the importance of developing countries determining their own food security strategies, that food security is a national responsibility, and that any plans for addressing food security challenges and eradication of poverty in relation to food security must be nationally articulated, designed, owned and led, and built on consultation with all key stakeholders, and urges Member States to make food security a high priority and reflect this in their national programmes and budgets;

29. *Acknowledges*, in this regard, national and regional efforts by developing countries to implement long-term policies and measures that contribute to food security and agricultural development, such as the food security fund of some Latin American and Caribbean countries, the Latin American and the Caribbean without Hunger 2025 initiative, adopted at the twenty-ninth Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations Regional Conference for Latin America and the Caribbean, held in Caracas from 24 to 28 April 2006, the Presidential Summit on Sovereignty and Food Security: Foods for Life, held in Managua on 7 May 2008, the Sirte Declaration on Investing in Agriculture for Economic Growth and Food Security, adopted at the thirteenth ordinary session of the Assembly of the African Union in Sirte, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, on 3 July 2009, the Emergency Programme for Arab Food Security launched at the Arab Economic and Social Development Summit, held in Kuwait on 19 and 20 January 2009, the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation Food Security Reserve, and the Integrated Food Security Framework and Strategic Plan of Action on Food Security of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations;

30. *Underlines* the importance of the initiatives and commitments undertaken by the international community to enhance development of the agricultural sector and food security in developing countries, and of their full realization and implementation in a timely and reliable manner;

31. *Welcomes*, in that regard, the commitments made at the Group of Eight Summit held in L'Aquila, Italy, from 8 to 10 July 2009, to act with the scale and urgency needed to achieve sustainable global food security,[148] and welcomes the commitments made by the countries represented at L'Aquila towards a goal of mobilizing 20 billion dollars over three years through this coordinated, comprehensive strategy focused on sustainable agriculture development;

32. *Invites* all members of the international community, including international and regional financial institutions, and urges relevant bodies within the United Nations system, to cooperate actively in a coordinated manner in the implementation of the outcome of the World Summit on Food Security adopted in Rome in November 2009;

33. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that a coordinated follow-up at the field level to the World Summit on Food Security is undertaken in the context of the resident

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[146] A/57/304, annex.

[147] See A/63/740, annex.

[148] See A/63/927-S/2009/358, annex.

coordinator system, taking into account the coordinated follow-up to United Nations major international conferences;

34. *Invites* the Chair of the Committee on World Food Security to report, as part of the Committee's report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session, through the Economic and Social Council, on the implementation of the reform of and on progress made towards achieving the vision of the Committee;

35. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session on developments related to issues highlighted in the present resolution and the progress of the implementation of the outcome of the World Summit on Food Security;

36. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled "Agriculture development and food security", to be allocated to the Second Committee.

RESOLUTION 64/225

Adopted at the 66th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/430, para. 10)[349]

64/225. Amendments to the Charter of the United Nations University

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 2951 (XXVII) of 11 December 1972, by which it decided to establish the United Nations University, and 3081 (XXVIII) of 6 December 1973, by which it adopted the Charter of the United Nations University, and taking note of the resolutions adopted since then on the progress of the University,

Taking note of the decision on the United Nations University adopted by the Executive Board of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization at its one hundred and eighty-second session, held in Paris in September 2009,[350]

Taking note also of the proposal adopted by the Council of the United Nations University at its fifty-fifth session, in December 2008, for the United Nations University to build upon its existing joint graduate programmes and to develop and implement its own postgraduate degree programmes as a part of the United Nations University strategic plan 2009–2012,

Taking note further of the proposal of the Secretary-General to amend the Charter of the United Nations University in accordance with article XII thereof, made after consultation with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the Council of the United Nations University,

1. *Approves* the following amendments to the Charter of the United Nations University:

(*a*) A new paragraph 8 shall be added to article I, to read as follows:

> "8. The University shall grant and confer master's degrees and doctorates, diplomas, certificates and other academic distinctions under conditions laid down for that purpose in the statutes by the Council";

(*b*) A new paragraph 2 bis shall be added to article IX, to read as follows:

> "2 bis. The costs of the postgraduate degree programmes of the University as referred to in article I, paragraph 8, above may also be met from tuition fees and related charges";

2. *Invites* the Council of the United Nations University to adopt such statutes as may be necessary to implement these amendments.

RESOLUTION 64/236

Adopted at the 68th plenary meeting, on 24 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/420/Add.1, para. 20)[351]

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[349] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Armenia, Austria, Bahamas, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Mongolia, Montenegro, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, Niger, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Zambia and Zimbabwe.

[350] United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Decisions Adopted by the Executive Board at its One Hundred and Eighty-second Session, Paris, 7–23 September 2009* (182 EX/Decisions), decision 11.

[351] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Rapporteur of the Committee.

64/236. Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 55/199 of 20 December 2000, 56/226 of 24 December 2001, 57/253 of 20 December 2002, 57/270 A and B of 20 December 2002 and 23 June 2003, respectively, 62/189 of 19 December 2007 and 63/212 of 19 December 2008, and all other previous resolutions on the implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development,

Recalling also the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[352] Agenda 21,[353] the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,[354] the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[355] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),[356] as well as the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development[357] and the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development: outcome document of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus,[358]

Recalling further the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[359] the Declaration and state of progress and initiatives for the future implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[360] and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[361]

Reaffirming the commitment to implement Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21, the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, including the time-bound goals and targets, and the other internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Recalling the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[362]

Reaffirming the decisions taken at the eleventh session of the Commission on Sustainable Development,[363]

Recalling the adoption by the Commission of a multi-year programme of work[363] designed to contribute to advancing the implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation at all levels,

Recalling also the decision taken by the Commission at its eleventh session that in review years it should discuss the contribution of partnerships towards supporting the implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation with a view to sharing lessons learned and best practices, identifying and addressing problems, gaps and constraints and providing further guidance, including on reporting, during policy years, as necessary,[364]

Reiterating that sustainable development in its economic, social and environmental aspects is a key element of the overarching framework for United Nations activities, and reaffirming the continuing need to ensure a balance among economic development, social development and environmental protection as interdependent and mutually reinforcing pillars of sustainable development,

Noting that challenges remain in achieving the goals of the three pillars of sustainable development, particularly in the context of the current global crises,

Taking note with appreciation of the offer of the Government of Brazil to host a United Nations conference on sustainable development in 2012,

Reaffirming that eradicating poverty, changing unsustainable patterns of production and consumption and protecting and managing the natural resource base of economic and social development are overarching objectives of and essential requirements for sustainable development,

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[352] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[353] Ibid., annex II.

[354] Resolution S-19/2, annex.

[355] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[356] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

[357] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[358] Resolution 63/239, annex.

[359] *Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April–6 May 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[360] Resolution S-22/2, annex.

[361] *Report of the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Port Louis, Mauritius, 10–14 January 2005* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.05.II.A.4 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[362] See resolution 60/1.

[363] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2003, Supplement No. 9* (E/2003/29), chap. I.

[364] Ibid., draft resolution I, para. 23 (*e*).

Recognizing that good governance within each country and at the international level is essential for sustainable development,

Recalling that the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation designated the Commission to serve as the focal point for discussion on partnerships that promote sustainable development and contribute to the implementation of intergovernmental commitments in Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation,

Recognizing that eradicating poverty is the greatest global challenge facing the world today and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, in particular for developing countries, and that although each country has the primary responsibility for its own sustainable development and poverty eradication and the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized, concerted and concrete measures are required at all levels to enable developing countries to achieve their sustainable development goals as related to the internationally agreed poverty-related targets and goals, including those contained in Agenda 21, the relevant outcomes of other United Nations conferences and the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[365]

Recalling that the Economic and Social Council should increase its role in overseeing system-wide coordination and the balanced integration of economic, social and environmental aspects of United Nations policies and programmes aimed at promoting sustainable development, and reaffirming that the Commission should continue to be the high-level commission on sustainable development within the United Nations system and serve as a forum for consideration of issues related to the integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development,

Welcoming the outcome of the seventeenth session of the Commission on the thematic issues of agriculture, rural development, land, drought, desertification and Africa,[366]

Recalling that the themes of the eighteenth and nineteenth sessions of the Commission, namely, transport, chemicals, waste management, mining and a ten-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production patternsare interlinked and should be addressed in an integrated manner, taking into account the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development, related sectoral policies and cross-cutting issues, including means of implementation, as identified at the eleventh session of the Commission,

Reiterating that fundamental changes in the way societies produce and consume are indispensable for achieving global sustainable development and that all countries should promote sustainable consumption and production patterns, with the developed countries taking the lead and with all countries benefiting from the process, taking into account the Rio principles,[352] including the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities as set out in paragraph 7 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, and also reiterating that Governments, relevant international organizations, the private sector and all major groups should play an active role in changing unsustainable consumption and production patterns,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[367]

2. *Reiterates* that sustainable development is a key element of the overarching framework for United Nations activities, in particular for achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and those contained in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;[356]

3. *Calls upon* Governments, all relevant international and regional organizations, the Economic and Social Council, the United Nations funds and programmes, the regional commissions and specialized agencies, the international financial institutions, the Global Environment Facility and other intergovernmental organizations, in accordance with their respective mandates, as well as major groups, to take action to ensure the effective implementation of and follow-up to the commitments, programmes and time-bound targets adopted at the World Summit on Sustainable Development, and encourages them to report on concrete progress in that regard;

4. *Calls for* the effective implementation of the commitments, programmes and time-bound targets adopted at the World Summit on Sustainable Development and for the fulfilment of the provisions relating to the means of implementation, as contained in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;

5. *Reiterates* that the Commission on Sustainable Development is the high-level body responsible for sustainable development within the United Nations system and serves as a forum for the consideration of issues related to the integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development, and underlines the need to further support the work of the Commission, taking into account its existing mandate and the decisions taken at its eleventh session;

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[365] See resolution 55/2.

[366] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2009, Supplement No. 9* (E/2009/29), chap. I, resolution 17/1.

[367] A/64/275.

6. *Encourages* countries to present, on a voluntary basis, in particular at the Commission's review sessions, national reports focusing on concrete progress in implementation, including achievements, constraints, challenges and opportunities;

7. *Emphasizes* the importance of a consensus outcome and action-oriented policy sessions;

8. *Encourages* Governments to participate at the appropriate level, in the eighteenth session of the Commission, with representatives, including ministers, from the relevant departments and organizations working in the areas of transport, chemicals, waste management, mining and sustainable consumption and production, as well as finance;

9. *Recalls* the decision of the Commission at its eleventh session that activities during Commission meetings should provide for the balanced involvement of participants from all regions, as well as for gender balance;[368]

10. *Invites* donor countries to consider supporting the participation of representatives from the developing countries in the eighteenth session of the Commission, inter alia, through contributions to the Commission's trust fund;

11. *Reaffirms* the objective of strengthening the implementation of Agenda 21,[353] including through the mobilization of financial and technological resources, as well as capacity-building programmes, in particular for developing countries;

12. *Also reaffirms* the objective of enhancing the participation and effective involvement of civil society and other relevant stakeholders, as well as promoting transparency and broad public participation, in the implementation of Agenda 21;

13. *Requests* the secretariat of the Commission to coordinate the participation of the relevant major groups in the thematic discussions at the eighteenth session of the Commission and the reporting on the fulfilment of corporate responsibility and accountability with respect to the thematic cluster of issues, in accordance with the provisions of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;

14. *Reaffirms* the need to promote corporate social responsibility and accountability as envisaged by the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;

15. *Requests* the secretariat of the Commission to make arrangements to facilitate the balanced representation of major groups from developed and developing countries in the sessions of the Commission, and in this regard invites donor countries to consider supporting the participation of major groups from developing countries, inter alia, through contributions to the Commission's trust fund;

16. *Encourages* contributions by the regional implementation meetings and other regional events to the Commission at its eighteenth session;

17. *Reiterates its invitation* to the relevant United Nations funds and programmes, the regional commissions and specialized agencies, the international and regional financial and trade institutions and the Global Environment Facility, as well as the secretariats of the multilateral environmental agreements and other relevant bodies, to actively participate, within their mandates, in the work of the Commission at its eighteenth session;

18. *Encourages* Governments and organizations at all levels, as well as major groups, to undertake results-oriented initiatives and activities to support the work of the Commission and to promote and facilitate the implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21[354] and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, including through voluntary multi-stakeholder partnership initiatives;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in reporting to the Commission at its eighteenth session, on the basis of appropriate inputs from all levels, to submit a thematic report on each of the five issues contained in the thematic cluster to be considered at the session, namely, transport, chemicals, waste management, mining and a ten-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production patterns, taking into account their interlinkages as well as cross-cutting issues, including means of implementation identified by the Commission at its eleventh session, and takes into account the relevant provisions of paragraphs 10, 14 and 15 of draft resolution I adopted by the Commission at its eleventh session;[363]

20. *Decides* to organize, in 2012, the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development at the highest possible level, including Heads of State and Government or other representatives, in this regard accepts with gratitude the generous offer of the Government of Brazil to host the Conference, and decides that:

(*a*) The objective of the Conference will be to secure renewed political commitment for sustainable development, assessing the progress to date and the remaining gaps in the implementation of the outcomes of the major summits on sustainable development and addressing new and emerging challenges. The focus of the Conference will include the following themes to be discussed and refined during the preparatory process: a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication and the institutional framework for sustainable development;

(*b*) The Conference will result in a focused political document;

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[368] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2003, Supplement No. 9* (E/2003/29), chap. I, sect. A, draft resolution I, para. 2 (*j*).

(*c*) The Conference and its preparatory process should take into account the decision taken at the eleventh session of the Commission to carry out, at the conclusion of the multi-year programme of work, an overall appraisal of the implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;

(*d*) The Conference, including its preparatory process, should ensure the balanced integration of economic development, social development and environmental protection, as these are interdependent and mutually reinforcing components of sustainable development;

(*e*) It is important that there be efficient and effective preparations at the local, national, regional and international levels by Governments and the United Nations system so as to ensure high-quality inputs without placing undue strain on Member States;

(*f*) It must be ensured that the Conference and related preparations do not adversely affect other ongoing activities;

21. *Encourages* the active participation of all major groups, as identified in Agenda 21 and further elaborated in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation and decisions taken at the eleventh session of the Commission, at all stages of the preparatory process, in accordance with the rules and procedures of the Commission as well as its established practices related to the participation and engagement of major groups;

22. *Invites* relevant stakeholders, including organizations and bodies of the United Nations, international financial institutions and major groups involved in the area of sustainable development, to provide ideas and proposals reflecting their experiences and lessons learned as a contribution to the preparatory process;

23. *Decides* that a preparatory committee will be established within the framework of the Commission to carry out the preparations for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, which will provide for the full and effective participation of all States Members of the United Nations and members of the specialized agencies, as well as other participants in the Commission, in accordance with the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council and the supplementary arrangements established for the Commission by the Council in its decisions 1993/215 of 12 February 1993 and 1995/201 of 8 February 1995;

24. *Invites* regional groups to nominate their candidates for the ten-member Bureau of the Preparatory Committee no later than 28 February 2010 so that they can be involved in its preparations in advance of the first session of the Preparatory Committee;

25. *Decides* that:

(*a*) The first meeting of the Preparatory Committee will be held in 2010 for three days, immediately after the conclusion of the eighteenth session and the first meeting of the nineteenth session of the Commission to discuss the substantive themes of the Conference, as decided in accordance with the present resolution, and pending procedural matters, as well as to elect the Bureau;

(*b*) The second meeting of the Preparatory Committee will be held in 2011 for two days immediately after the conclusion of the Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting for the nineteenth session of the Commission to discuss further the substantive themes of the Conference;

(*c*) The third and final meeting of the Preparatory Committee will be held in Brazil in 2012 for three days to discuss the outcome of the Conference, immediately preceding the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, which will also be held for three days. In this regard, the Commission will postpone its multi-year programme of work for one year;

(*d*) Regional implementation meetings will become regional preparatory meetings for the Conference in 2011;

26. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on progress to date and remaining gaps in the implementation of the outcomes of the major summits in the area of sustainable development, as well as an analysis of the themes identified above, to the Preparatory Committee at its first meeting;

27. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to provide all appropriate support to the work of the preparatory process and the Conference, ensuring inter-agency participation and coherence as well as the efficient use of resources;

28. *Encourages* international and bilateral donors and other countries in a position to do so to support the preparations for the Conference through voluntary contributions to the Commission's trust fund and to support the participation of representatives of developing countries, and invites voluntary contributions to support the participation of major groups of developing countries in the regional and international preparatory processes and the Conference itself;

29. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the sub-item entitled "Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development", and requests the Secretary-General, at that session, to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution, including on the progress of the preparations for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development.

RESOLUTION 64/237

Adopted at the 68th plenary meeting, on 24 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/422/Add.2, para. 8)[369]

64/237. Preventing and combating corrupt practices and transfer of assets of illicit origin and returning such assets, in particular to the countries of origin, consistent with the United Nations Convention against Corruption

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 54/205 of 22 December 1999, 55/61 of 4 December 2000, 55/188 of 20 December 2000, 56/186 of 21 December 2001 and 57/244 of 20 December 2002, and recalling also its resolutions 58/205 of 23 December 2003, 59/242 of 22 December 2004, 60/207 of 22 December 2005, 61/209 of 20 December 2006, 62/202 of 19 December 2007 and 63/226 of 19 December 2008,

Welcoming the entry into force on 14 December 2005 of the United Nations Convention against Corruption,[370]

Recognizing that fighting corruption at all levels is a priority and that corruption is a serious barrier to effective resource mobilization and allocation and diverts resources away from activities that are vital for poverty eradication, the fight against hunger, and economic and sustainable development,

Recognizing also that supportive domestic legal systems are essential in preventing and combating corrupt practices and transfer of assets of illicit origin and returning such assets,

Recalling that the fight against all forms of corruption requires strong institutions at all levels, including at the local level, able to undertake efficient preventive and law enforcement measures consistent with the Convention, in particular chapters II and III,

Acknowledging the important progress made towards the implementation of chapter V of the Convention, but recognizing that States parties continue to face challenges in asset recovery owing to, inter alia, differences in legal systems, the complexity of multijurisdictional investigations and prosecutions, lack of familiarity with mutual legal assistance procedures of other States and difficulties in identifying the flow of proceeds of corruption, and noting the particular challenges posed in recovering the proceeds of corruption in cases involving individuals who are, or have been, entrusted with prominent public functions and their family members and close associates,

Reiterating its concern about the seriousness of problems and threats posed by corruption to the stability and security of societies, undermining the institutions and the values of democracy, ethical values and justice and jeopardizing sustainable development and the rule of law, in particular when an inadequate national and international response leads to impunity,

Convinced that corruption is no longer a local matter but a transnational phenomenon that affects all societies and economies, making international cooperation to prevent and control it essential,

Convinced also that a stable and transparent environment for national and international commercial transactions in all countries is essential for the mobilization of investment, finance, technology, skills and other important resources, and recognizing that effective efforts at all levels to prevent and combat corruption in all its forms in all countries are essential elements of an improved national and international business environment,

Mindful of the very important role that the private sector can play in fostering economic growth and development and of the active involvement of the United Nations system in facilitating the constructive participation and orderly interaction of the private sector in the development process by embracing universal principles and norms, such as honesty, transparency and accountability,

Recognizing the concern about the laundering and the transfer of assets of illicit origin derived from corruption, and stressing the need to address this concern consistent with the Convention,

Determined to prevent, detect and deter, in a more effective manner, international transfers of illicitly acquired assets and to strengthen international cooperation through the commitment of Member States to effective national and international action,

Concerned about the links between corruption in all its forms, including bribery, corruption-related money-laundering and the transfer of assets of illicit origin, and other forms of crime, in particular organized crime and economic crime,

Noting the particular concern of developing countries and countries with economies in transition regarding the return of assets of illicit origin derived from corruption, in particular to countries from which they originated, consistent with the principles of the Convention, in particular chapter V, so as to enable countries to design and fund development projects in accordance with their national priorities, in view of the importance that such assets can have to their sustainable development,

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[369] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee.

[370] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2349, No. 42146.

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[371]

2. *Welcomes* the significant number of Member States that have already ratified or acceded to the United Nations Convention against Corruption,[370] and in this regard urges all Member States and competent regional economic integration organizations, within the limits of their competence, that have not yet done so to consider ratifying or acceding to the Convention as a matter of priority, and calls upon all States parties to fully implement the Convention as soon as possible;

3. *Expresses concern* about the magnitude of corruption at all levels, including the scale of the transfer of assets of illicit origin derived from corruption, and in this regard reiterates its commitment to preventing and combating corrupt practices at all levels, consistent with the Convention;

4. *Urges* Member States to combat and penalize corruption in all its forms as well as the laundering of proceeds of corruption, to prevent the transfer of illicitly acquired assets, and to work for the prompt return of such assets through asset recovery consistent with the principles of the Convention, particularly chapter V;

5. *Condemns* corruption in all its forms, including bribery, as well as the laundering of proceeds of corruption and other forms of economic crime;

6. *Welcomes* the conclusion of the third session of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption, held in Doha from 9 to 13 November 2009, and requests the Secretary-General to transmit to the General Assembly a report on the third session of the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention;

7. *Stresses* the need for transparency in financial institutions, invites Member States to work on the identification and tracing of financial flows linked to corruption, the freezing or seizing of assets derived from corruption and the return of such assets, consistent with the Convention, and encourages the promotion of human and institutional capacity-building in that regard;

8. *Welcomes* the successful outcome of the third session of the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention, especially the establishment by consensus of a review mechanism for the implementation of the Convention, and calls upon States parties to fully implement the outcomes of the Conference;

9. *Calls*, in particular, for the rapid and effective implementation of the mechanism for the review of implementation of the Convention by all States parties, and, where appropriate, relevant stakeholders, in accordance with the terms of reference of the mechanism;

10. *Takes note with appreciation* of the work of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Groups on Asset Recovery, Technical Assistance and Review of the Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption and the open-ended dialogue with international organizations, including the Institutional Integrity Initiative, and calls upon States parties to the Convention to support the work of the newly established Implementation Review Group, including its work on technical assistance, and the newly established Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group on Prevention of Corruption, as well as the continuing work of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group on Asset Recovery;

11. *Also takes note with appreciation* of the decision of the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention to accept the offer by the Governments of Morocco and Panama to host its fourth and fifth sessions in 2011 and 2013, respectively;

12. *Welcomes* the efforts of Member States that have enacted laws and taken other positive measures in the fight against corruption in all its forms, including in accordance with the Convention, and in this regard encourages Member States that have not yet done so to enact such laws and to implement effective measures at the national level and, in accordance with domestic laws and policies, at the local level, to prevent and combat corruption;

13. *Affirms* the need for Member States, consistent with the Convention, to take measures to prevent the transfer abroad and laundering of assets derived from corruption, including to prevent the financial institutions in both countries of origin and destination from being used to transfer or receive illicit funds, as well as to assist in their recovery and to return such assets to the requesting State, consistent with the Convention;

14. *Urges* all Member States, consistent with the Convention, to abide by the principles of proper management of public affairs and public property, fairness, responsibility and equality before the law and the need to safeguard integrity and to foster a culture of transparency, accountability and rejection of corruption;

15. *Stresses* the importance of mutual legal assistance, and encourages Member States to enhance international cooperation, consistent with the Convention;

16. *Calls for* further international cooperation, inter alia, through the United Nations system, in support of national, subregional and regional efforts to prevent and combat corrupt practices and the transfer of assets of illicit origin, consistent with the principles of the Convention, and in this regard encourages close cooperation between anti-corruption agencies, law enforcement agencies and financial intelligence units;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime with the resources necessary to enable it to promote, in an effective manner, the implementation of the Convention and to discharge its functions as the secretariat of the Conference of the States

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[371] A/64/122.

Parties to the Convention, and also requests the Secretary-General to ensure that the new mechanism for the review of implementation of the Convention is adequately funded, in line with the resolution adopted by the Conference of the States Parties;[372]

18. *Reiterates its call upon* the private sector, at both the international and the national levels, including small and large companies and transnational corporations, to remain fully engaged in the fight against corruption, notes in this context the role that the Global Compact can play in fighting corruption and promoting transparency, and emphasizes the need for all relevant stakeholders, including within the United Nations system, as appropriate, to continue to promote corporate responsibility and accountability;

19. *Takes note* of the holding of the sixth Global Forum on Fighting Corruption and Safeguarding Integrity on the theme "Strength in unity: public-private partnership to fight corruption" in Doha on 7 and 8 November 2009;

20. *Requests* the international community to provide, inter alia, technical assistance to support national efforts to strengthen human and institutional capacity aimed at preventing and combating corrupt practices and the transfer of assets of illicit origin as well as for asset recovery in accordance with chapter V of the Convention, consistent with the principles of the Convention, and to support national efforts in formulating strategies for mainstreaming and promoting transparency and integrity in both the public and private sectors;

21. *Takes note with appreciation* of the Stolen Asset Recovery Initiative of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the World Bank, takes note of its cooperation with relevant partners, including the International Centre for Asset Recovery, and encourages coordination among existing initiatives;

22. *Takes note* of the partnership between the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the International Criminal Police Organization and the Government of Austria, with the support of the European Anti-Fraud Agency to establish the International Anti-Corruption Academy, to serve as a centre of excellence for education, training and academic research in the field of anti-corruption, including in the area of asset recovery;

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly, at its sixty-fifth session, a report on preventing and combating corrupt practices and transfer of assets of illicit origin and returning such assets, in particular to the countries of origin, consistent with the Convention;

24. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session, under the item entitled "Globalization and interdependence", the sub-item entitled "Preventing and combating corrupt practices and transfer of assets of illicit origin and returning such assets, in particular to the countries of origin, consistent with the United Nations Convention against Corruption".

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[372] CAC/COSP/2009/15, sect.I.A., resolution 3/1.

V. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Third Committee

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RESOLUTION 64/82

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 10 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/439/Add.2 (Part I), para. 8)[1]

64/82. Follow-up to the International Year of Human Rights Learning

The General Assembly,

Recalling that the purposes and principles contained in the Charter of the United Nations include promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all,

Recalling also its resolution 60/251 of 15 March 2006, in which it decided that the Human Rights Council should, inter alia, promote human rights education and learning as well as advisory services, technical assistance and capacity-building,

Recalling further the 2005 World Summit Outcome, in which Heads of State and Government expressed their support for the promotion of human rights education and learning at all levels, including through the implementation of the World Programme for Human Rights Education, as appropriate, and encouraged all States to develop initiatives in that regard,[2]

Recalling its resolutions 62/171 of 18 December 2007 and 63/173 of 18 December 2008 on the International Year of Human Rights Learning,

Welcoming resolution 12/4 adopted by the Human Rights Council on 1 October 2009,[3] in which the Council decided on the focus of the second phase of the World Programme for Human Rights Education, and stressing the complementarity between human rights learning and human rights education,

Acknowledging that civil society, academia, the private sector, the media and, where appropriate, parliamentarians can play an important role at the national, regional and international levels in the development and facilitation of ways and means to promote and implement learning about human rights as a way of life at the community level,

Convinced that integrating human rights learning into all relevant development policies and programmes contributes to enabling people to participate as equals in the decisions that determine their lives,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,[4]

1. *Reaffirms its conviction* that every woman, man, youth and child can realize his or her full human potential by learning about the comprehensive framework of human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the ability to act on that knowledge in order to ensure the effective realization of human rights and fundamental freedoms for all;

2. *Encourages* Member States to expand on efforts made during the International Year of Human Rights Learning and to consider devoting the financial and human resources necessary to design and implement international, regional, national and local long-term human rights learning programmes of action aimed at broad-based and sustained human rights learning at all levels, in coordination with civil society, the media, the private sector, academia, parliamentarians and regional organizations, including the appropriate specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, and, where possible, to designate human rights cities;

3. *Calls upon* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Human Rights Council to support, cooperate and collaborate closely with civil society, the private sector, academia, regional organizations, the media and other relevant stakeholders, as well as with organizations, programmes and funds of the United Nations system, in efforts to develop, in particular, the design of strategies and international, regional, national and local programmes of action aimed at broad-based and sustained human rights learning at all levels;

4. *Recommends* that the Human Rights Council integrate human rights learning into the preparation of the draft United Nations declaration on human rights education and training, bearing in mind the complementarity of this initiative with the World Programme for Human Rights Education and human rights learning;

5. *Encourages* civil society organizations worldwide, in particular those working at the community level, to integrate human rights learning into dialogue and consciousness-raising programmes with groups working on education, development, poverty eradication, participation, children, indigenous peoples, gender equality, persons with disabilities, elder persons and

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[1] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, France, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Jordan, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Montenegro, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Serbia, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States) and Turkey.

[2] See resolution 60/1, para. 131.

[3] See A/HRC/12/50, part one, chap. I.

[4] A/64/293.

migrants, as well as on other relevant political, civil, economic, social and cultural issues of concern;

6. *Encourages* relevant actors in civil society, including sociologists, anthropologists, members of academia and of the media and community leaders, to develop the concept of human rights learning as a way to promote the full realization of all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all;

7. *Invites* relevant treaty bodies to take human rights learning into account in their interaction with States parties;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 64/127

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/431, para. 15)[5]

64/127. Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on the activities of his Office[6] and the report of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on the work of its sixtieth session[7] and the decisions contained therein,

Recalling its previous annual resolutions on the work of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees since its establishment by the General Assembly,

Expressing its appreciation for the leadership shown by the High Commissioner, commending the staff and implementing partners of the Office of the High Commissioner for the competent, courageous and dedicated manner in which they discharge their responsibilities, and underlining its strong condemnation of all forms of violence to which humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel are increasingly exposed,

1. *Endorses* the report of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on the work of its sixtieth session;[7]

2. *Welcomes* the important work undertaken by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and its Executive Committee in the course of the year, which is aimed at strengthening the international protection regime and at assisting Governments in meeting their protection responsibilities;

3. *Reaffirms* the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees[8] and the 1967 Protocol thereto[9] as the foundation of the international refugee protection regime, recognizes the importance of their full and effective application by States parties and the values they embody, notes with satisfaction that one hundred and forty-seven States are now parties to one instrument or to both, encourages States not parties to consider acceding to those instruments, underlines, in particular, the importance of full respect for the principle of non-refoulement, and recognizes that a number of States not parties to the international refugee instruments have shown a generous approach to hosting refugees;

4. *Notes* that sixty-five States are now parties to the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons[10] and that thirty-seven States are parties to the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness,[11] encourages States that have not done so to give consideration to acceding to those instruments, notes the work of the High Commissioner in regard to identifying stateless persons, preventing and reducing statelessness and protecting stateless persons, and urges the Office of the High Commissioner to continue to work in this area in accordance with relevant General Assembly resolutions and Executive Committee conclusions;

5. *Takes note* of the sixtieth anniversary of the Geneva Conventions[12] and the fortieth anniversary of the Organization

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[5] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay and Zambia.

[6] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 12* (A/64/12).

[7] Ibid., *Supplement No. 12A* (A/64/12/Add.1).

[8] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 189, No. 2545.

[9] Ibid., vol. 606, No. 8791.

[10] Ibid., vol. 360, No. 5158.

[11] Ibid., vol. 989, No. 14458.

[12] Ibid., vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

of African Unity Convention governing the specific aspects of refugee problems in Africa,[13] commemorated in 2009;

6. *Re-emphasizes* that the protection of refugees is primarily the responsibility of States, whose full and effective cooperation, action and political resolve are required to enable the Office of the High Commissioner to fulfil its mandated functions, and strongly emphasizes, in this context, the importance of active international solidarity and burden- and responsibility-sharing;

7. *Also re-emphasizes* that prevention and reduction of statelessness are primarily the responsibility of States, in appropriate cooperation with the international community;

8. *Further re-emphasizes* that protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons are primarily the responsibility of States, in appropriate cooperation with the international community;

9. *Encourages* the Office of the High Commissioner to pursue its efforts to strengthen its capacity to respond adequately to emergencies and thereby ensure a more predictable response to inter-agency commitments in case of emergency;

10. *Takes note* of the current activities of the Office of the High Commissioner related to protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons, including in the context of inter-agency arrangements in this field, emphasizes that such activities should be consistent with relevant General Assembly resolutions and should not undermine the mandate of the Office for refugees and the institution of asylum, and encourages the High Commissioner to continue his dialogue with States on the role of his Office in this regard;

11. *Encourages* the Office of the High Commissioner to work in partnership and in full cooperation with relevant national authorities, United Nations offices and agencies, international and intergovernmental organizations, regional organizations and non-governmental organizations to contribute to the continued development of humanitarian response capacities at all levels, and recalls the role of the Office as the cluster lead for protection, camp coordination and management, and emergency shelter in complex emergencies;

12. *Also encourages* the Office of the High Commissioner, among other relevant United Nations and other relevant intergovernmental organizations and humanitarian and development actors, to continue to work with the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat to enhance the coordination, effectiveness and efficiency of humanitarian assistance, as stated in General Assembly resolution 63/139 of 11 December 2008 on the strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations;

13. *Further encourages* the Office of the High Commissioner to engage in and implement in full the objectives of the Delivering as One initiative;

14. *Notes with appreciation* the ongoing implementation of the process of structural and management change undertaken by the Office of the High Commissioner, and encourages the Office to complete the implementation of the reforms process, including the implementation of a results-based management and accountability framework and strategy, as well as human resources reform, and to focus on continuous improvement to enable a more efficient response to the needs of beneficiaries and ensure the effective and transparent use of its resources;

15. *Strongly condemns* attacks on refugees, asylum-seekers and internally displaced persons as well as acts that pose a threat to their personal security and well-being, and calls upon all States concerned and, where applicable, parties involved in an armed conflict to take all necessary measures to ensure respect for human rights and international humanitarian law;

16. *Expresses deep concern* about the increasing number of attacks against humanitarian aid workers and convoys and, in particular, the loss of life of humanitarian personnel working in the most difficult and challenging conditions in order to assist those in need;

17. *Emphasizes* the need for States to ensure that perpetrators of attacks committed on their territory against humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel do not operate with impunity, and that the perpetrators of such acts are promptly brought to justice as provided for by national laws and obligations under international law;

18. *Deplores* the refoulement and unlawful expulsion of refugees and asylum-seekers, and calls upon all States concerned to ensure respect for the relevant principles of refugee protection and human rights;

19. *Emphasizes* that international protection of refugees is a dynamic and action-oriented function that is at the core of the mandate of the Office of the High Commissioner and that it includes, in cooperation with States and other partners, the promotion and facilitation of, inter alia, the admission, reception and treatment of refugees in accordance with internationally agreed standards and the ensuring of durable, protection-oriented solutions, bearing in mind the particular needs of vulnerable groups and paying special attention to those with specific needs, and notes in this context that the delivery of international protection is a staff-intensive service that requires adequate staff with the appropriate expertise, especially at the field level;

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[13] Ibid., vol. 1001, No. 14691.

20. *Affirms* the importance of age, gender and diversity mainstreaming in analysing protection needs and in ensuring the participation of refugees and other persons of concern to the Office of the High Commissioner, as appropriate, in the planning and implementation of programmes of the Office and State policies, and also affirms the importance of according priority to addressing discrimination, gender inequality and the problem of sexual and gender-based violence, recognizing the importance of addressing the protection needs of women and children in particular;

21. *Strongly reaffirms* the fundamental importance and the purely humanitarian and non-political character of the function of the Office of the High Commissioner of providing international protection to refugees and seeking permanent solutions to refugee problems, and recalls that those solutions include voluntary repatriation and, where appropriate and feasible, local integration and resettlement in a third country, while reaffirming that voluntary repatriation, supported, as necessary, by rehabilitation and development assistance to facilitate sustainable reintegration, remains the preferred solution;

22. *Expresses concern* about the particular difficulties faced by the millions of refugees in protracted situations, and emphasizes the need to redouble international efforts and cooperation to find practical and comprehensive approaches to resolving their plight and to realize durable solutions for them, consistent with international law and relevant General Assembly resolutions;

23. *Recognizes* the importance of achieving durable solutions to refugee problems and, in particular, the need to address in this process the root causes of refugee movements in order to avert new flows of refugees;

24. *Welcomes* the initiative of the High Commissioner to convene, in Geneva on 9 and 10 December 2009, the third Dialogue on Protection Challenges, on the theme "Challenges for persons of concern to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in urban settings";

25. *Recalls* the important role of effective partnerships and coordination in meeting the needs of refugees and in finding durable solutions to their situations, welcomes the efforts under way, in cooperation with countries hosting refugees and countries of origin, including their respective local communities, relevant United Nations agencies, international and intergovernmental organizations, regional organizations, as appropriate, non-governmental organizations and development actors, to promote a framework for durable solutions, particularly in protracted refugee situations, which includes an approach to sustainable and timely return which encompasses repatriation, reintegration, rehabilitation and reconstruction activities, and encourages States, in cooperation with relevant United Nations agencies, international and intergovernmental organizations, regional organizations, non-governmental organizations and development actors, to support, inter alia, through the allocation of funds, the implementation of such a framework to facilitate an effective transition from relief to development;

26. *Recognizes* that no solution to displacement can be durable unless it is sustainable, and therefore encourages the Office of the High Commissioner to support the sustainability of return and reintegration;

27. *Welcomes* the progress that has been achieved in increasing the number of refugees resettled and the number of States offering opportunities for resettlement, and the contribution that those States make to durable solutions for refugees, and invites interested States, the Office of the High Commissioner and other relevant partners to make use of the Multilateral Framework of Understandings on Resettlement,[14] where appropriate and feasible;

28. *Notes with appreciation* the activities undertaken by States to strengthen the regional initiatives that facilitate cooperative policies and approaches on refugees, and encourages States to continue their efforts to address, in a comprehensive manner, the needs of the people who require international protection in their respective regions, including the support provided for host communities that receive large numbers of persons who require international protection;

29. *Notes* the importance of States and the Office of the High Commissioner discussing and clarifying the role of the Office in mixed migratory flows, in order to better address protection needs in the context of mixed migratory flows, including by safeguarding access to asylum for those in need of international protection, and notes the readiness of the High Commissioner, consistent with his mandate, to assist States in fulfilling their protection responsibilities in this regard;

30. *Emphasizes* the obligation of all States to accept the return of their nationals, calls upon States to facilitate the return of their nationals who have been determined not to be in need of international protection, and affirms the need for the return of persons to be undertaken in a safe and humane manner and with full respect for their human rights and dignity, irrespective of the status of the persons concerned;

31. *Expresses deep concern* about the challenges posed by climate change and environmental degradation to the protection activities of the Office of the High Commissioner and the assistance it provides to vulnerable populations of concern across the globe, particularly in the least developed countries, and urges the Office to continue to address such challenges in its work, within its mandate, and in consultation

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[14] Available from www.unhcr.org.

with national authorities and in cooperation with competent agencies in its operations;

32. *Notes* the important number of displaced in and from Iraq and its serious impact on the social and economic situation of countries in the region, and calls upon the international community to act in a targeted and coordinated manner to provide protection and increased assistance to the persons displaced to enable the countries in the region to strengthen their capacity to respond to the needs in partnership with the Office of the High Commissioner, other United Nations agencies, the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and non-governmental organizations;

33. *Urges* all States and relevant non-governmental and other organizations, in conjunction with the Office of the High Commissioner, in a spirit of international solidarity and burden- and responsibility-sharing, to cooperate and to mobilize resources with a view to enhancing the capacity of and reducing the heavy burden borne by host countries, in particular those that have received large numbers of refugees and asylum-seekers, and calls upon the Office to continue to play its catalytic role in mobilizing assistance from the international community to address the root causes as well as the economic, environmental and social impact of large-scale refugee populations in developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, and countries with economies in transition;

34. *Expresses deep concern* about the existing and potential challenges posed by the world financial and economic crisis to the activities of the Office of the High Commissioner;

35. *Calls upon* the Office of the High Commissioner to further explore ways and means to broaden its donor base, so as to achieve greater burden-sharing by reinforcing cooperation with governmental donors, non-governmental donors and the private sector;

36. *Recognizes* that adequate and timely resources are essential for the Office of the High Commissioner to continue to fulfil the mandate conferred upon it through its statute[15] and by subsequent General Assembly resolutions on refugees and other persons of concern, recalls its resolutions 58/153 of 22 December 2003, 58/270 of 23 December 2003, 59/170 of 20 December 2004, 60/129 of 16 December 2005, 61/137 of 19 December 2006, 62/124 of 18 December 2007 and 63/148 of 18 December 2008 concerning, inter alia, the implementation of paragraph 20 of the statute of the Office, and urges Governments and other donors to respond promptly to annual and supplementary appeals issued by the Office for requirements under its programmes;

37. *Requests* the High Commissioner to report on his activities to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session.

RESOLUTION 64/128

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/431, para. 15)[16]

64/128. Enlargement of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

The General Assembly,

Taking note of Economic and Social Council decision 2009/252 of 30 July 2009 concerning the enlargement of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees,

Taking note also of the request regarding the enlargement of the Executive Committee contained in the letter dated 10 March 2009 from the Permanent Representative of Slovenia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General,[17]

1. *Decides* to increase the number of members of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees from seventy-eight to seventy-nine States;

2. *Requests* the Economic and Social Council to elect the additional member at its resumed organizational session for 2010.

RESOLUTION 64/129

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/431, para. 15)[18]

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[15] Resolution 428 (V), annex.

[16] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Albania, Bangladesh, Belarus, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cameroon, Chile, Ecuador, Egypt, Mali, Morocco, Slovenia, Sudan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Turkey.

[17] E/2009/47.

[18] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, and Zambia (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States).

64/129. Assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Organization of African Unity Convention governing the specific aspects of refugee problems in Africa of 1969[19] and the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights,[20]

Reaffirming that the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees,[21] together with the 1967 Protocol thereto,[22] as complemented by the Organization of African Unity Convention of 1969, remains the foundation of the international refugee protection regime in Africa,

Recognizing the particular vulnerability of women and children among refugees and other persons of concern, including exposure to discrimination and sexual and physical abuse,

Gravely concerned by the deteriorating conditions in some of the refugee camps in Africa,

Recognizing that refugees, internally displaced persons and, in particular, women and children are at an increased risk of exposure to HIV/AIDS, malaria and other infectious diseases,

Welcoming the adoption of the African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa,[23] which marks a significant step towards strengthening the national and regional normative framework for the protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons,

Noting with appreciation the Pact on Security, Stability and Development in the Great Lakes Region[24] and its instruments, in particular two of the protocols to the Pact which are relevant to the protection of displaced persons, namely, the Protocol on the Protection of and Assistance to Internally Displaced Persons and the Protocol on the Property Rights of Returning Persons,

Recognizing that host States have the primary responsibility for the protection of and assistance to refugees on their territory, and the need to redouble efforts to develop and implement comprehensive durable solution strategies, in appropriate cooperation with the international community, and burden- and responsibility-sharing,

Emphasizing that States have the primary responsibility to provide protection and assistance to internally displaced persons within their jurisdiction, as well as to address the root causes of the displacement problem in appropriate cooperation with the international community,

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General[25] and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees;[26]

2. *Calls upon* African Member States that have not yet signed or ratified the African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa[23] to consider doing so as early as possible in order to ensure its early entry into force and implementation;

3. *Takes note* of the fortieth anniversary, on 10 September 2009, of the Organization of African Unity Convention governing the specific aspects of refugee problems in Africa of 1969;[19]

4. *Notes* the need for African Member States to address resolutely root causes of all forms of forced displacement in Africa and to foster peace, stability and prosperity throughout the African continent so as to forestall flows of refugees;

5. *Notes with great concern* that, despite all of the efforts made so far by the United Nations, the African Union and others, the situation of refugees and displaced persons in Africa remains precarious, and calls upon States and other parties to armed conflict to observe scrupulously the letter and spirit of international humanitarian law, bearing in mind that armed conflict is one of the principal causes of forced displacement in Africa;

6. *Welcomes* decision EX.CL/Dec.494 (XV) on the situation of refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa, adopted by the Executive Council of the African Union at its fifteenth ordinary session, held in Sirte, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, from 28 to 30 June 2009;[27]

7. *Expresses its appreciation* for the leadership shown by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, and commends the Office for its ongoing efforts, with the support of the international community, to assist African countries of asylum, including by providing support to vulnerable local host communities, and to respond to the protection and assistance needs of refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa;

8. *Notes with appreciation* the initiatives taken by the African Union, the Subcommittee on Refugees, Returnees and Internally Displaced Persons of its Permanent Representatives Committee, and the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, in particular the role of its Special Rapporteur on Refugees, Asylum-Seekers, Migrants and Internally Displaced

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[19] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1001, No. 14691.

[20] Ibid., vol. 1520, No. 26363.

[21] Ibid., vol. 189, No. 2545.

[22] Ibid., vol. 606, No. 8791.

[23] Available from www.africa-union.org.

[24] Available from www.icglr.org.

[25] A/64/330.

[26] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 12* (A/64/12).

[27] See African Union, document EX.CL/Dec.489–520 (XV) Rev.2. Available from www.africa-union.org.

Persons in Africa, to ensure the protection of and assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa;

9. *Acknowledges* the important contribution of the age, gender and diversity mainstreaming strategy in identifying, through a participatory approach, the protection risks faced by the different members of the refugee community, in particular the non-discriminatory treatment and protection of refugee women and refugee children and minority groups of refugees;

10. *Affirms* that children, because of their age, social status and physical and mental development, are often more vulnerable than adults in situations of forced displacement, recognizes that forced displacement, return to post-conflict situations, integration in new societies, protracted situations of displacement and statelessness can increase child-protection risks, taking into account the particular vulnerability of refugee children to forcible exposure to the risks of physical and psychological injury, exploitation and death in connection with armed conflict, and acknowledges that wider environmental factors and individual risk factors, particularly when combined, may generate different protection needs;

11. *Recognizes* that no solution to displacement can be durable unless it is sustainable, and therefore encourages the Office of the High Commissioner to support the sustainability of return and reintegration;

12. *Also recognizes* the importance of early registration and effective registration systems and censuses as a tool of protection and as a means to the quantification and assessment of needs for the provision and distribution of humanitarian assistance and to implement appropriate durable solutions;

13. *Recalls* the conclusion on registration of refugees and asylum-seekers adopted by the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees at its fifty-second session,[28] notes the many forms of harassment faced by refugees and asylum-seekers who remain without any form of documentation attesting to their status, recalls the responsibility of States to register refugees on their territories and, as appropriate, the responsibility of the Office of the High Commissioner or mandated international bodies to do so, reiterates in this context the central role that early and effective registration and documentation can play, guided by protection considerations, in enhancing protection and supporting efforts to find durable solutions, and calls upon the Office, as appropriate, to help States to conduct this procedure should they be unable to register refugees on their territory;

14. *Calls upon* the international community, including States and the Office of the High Commissioner and other relevant United Nations organizations, within their respective mandates, to take concrete action to meet the protection and assistance needs of refugees, returnees and displaced persons and to contribute generously to projects and programmes aimed at alleviating their plight, facilitating durable solutions for refugees and displaced persons and supporting vulnerable local host communities;

15. *Reaffirms* the importance of timely and adequate assistance and protection for refugees, returnees and displaced persons, also reaffirms that assistance and protection are mutually reinforcing and that inadequate material assistance and food shortages undermine protection, notes the importance of a rights- and community-based approach in engaging constructively with individual refugees, returnees and displaced persons and their communities so as to achieve fair and equitable access to food and other forms of material assistance, and expresses concern in regard to situations in which minimum standards of assistance are not met, including those in which adequate needs assessments have yet to be undertaken;

16. *Also reaffirms* that respect by States for their protection responsibilities towards refugees is strengthened by international solidarity involving all members of the international community and that the refugee protection regime is enhanced through committed international cooperation in a spirit of solidarity and burden- and responsibility-sharing among all States;

17. *Further reaffirms* that host States have the primary responsibility to ensure the civilian and humanitarian character of asylum, calls upon States, in cooperation with international organizations, within their mandates, to take all necessary measures to ensure respect for the principles of refugee protection and, in particular, to ensure that the civilian and humanitarian nature of refugee camps is not compromised by the presence or the activities of armed elements or used for purposes that are incompatible with their civilian character, and encourages the High Commissioner to continue efforts, in consultation with States and other relevant actors, to ensure the civilian and humanitarian character of camps;

18. *Condemns* all acts that pose a threat to the personal security and well-being of refugees and asylum-seekers, such as refoulement, unlawful expulsion and physical attacks, calls upon States of refuge, in cooperation with international organizations, where appropriate, to take all necessary measures to ensure respect for the principles of refugee protection, including the humane treatment of asylum-seekers, notes with interest that the High Commissioner has continued to take steps to encourage the development of measures to better ensure the civilian and humanitarian character of asylum, and encourages the High Commissioner to continue those efforts, in consultation with States and other relevant actors;

19. *Deplores* the continuing violence and insecurity which constitute an ongoing threat to the safety and security of staff members of the Office of the High Commissioner and other humanitarian organizations and an obstacle to the effective fulfilment of the mandate of the Office and the ability of its

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[28] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 12A* (A/56/12/Add.1), chap. III, sect. B.

implementing partners and other humanitarian personnel to discharge their respective humanitarian functions, urges States, parties to conflict and all other relevant actors to take all necessary measures to protect activities related to humanitarian assistance, prevent attacks on and kidnapping of national and international humanitarian workers and ensure the safety and security of the personnel and property of the Office and that of all humanitarian organizations discharging functions mandated by the Office, and calls upon States to investigate fully any crime committed against humanitarian personnel and bring to justice the persons responsible for such crimes;

20. *Calls upon* the Office of the High Commissioner, the African Union, subregional organizations and all African States, in conjunction with agencies of the United Nations system, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and the international community, to strengthen and revitalize existing partnerships and forge new ones in support of the protection system for refugees, asylum-seekers and internally displaced persons;

21. *Calls upon* the Office of the High Commissioner, the international community and other entities concerned to intensify their support to African Governments through appropriate capacity-building activities, including training of relevant officers, disseminating information about refugee instruments and principles, providing financial, technical and advisory services to accelerate the enactment or amendment and implementation of legislation relating to refugees, strengthening emergency response and enhancing capacities for the coordination of humanitarian activities, in particular those Governments that have received large numbers of refugees and asylum-seekers;

22. *Reaffirms* the right of return and the principle of voluntary repatriation, appeals to countries of origin and countries of asylum to create conditions that are conducive to voluntary repatriation, and recognizes that, while voluntary repatriation remains the pre-eminent solution, local integration and third-country resettlement, where appropriate and feasible, are also viable options for dealing with the situation of African refugees who, owing to prevailing circumstances in their respective countries of origin, are unable to return home;

23. *Also reaffirms* that voluntary repatriation should not necessarily be conditioned on the accomplishment of political solutions in the country of origin in order not to impede the exercise of the refugees' right to return, recognizes that the voluntary repatriation and reintegration process is normally guided by the conditions in the country of origin, in particular that voluntary repatriation can be accomplished in conditions of safety and dignity, and urges the High Commissioner to promote sustainable return through the development of durable and lasting solutions, particularly in protracted refugee situations;

24. *Calls upon* the international donor community to provide financial and material assistance that allows for the implementation of community-based development programmes that benefit both refugees and host communities, as appropriate, in agreement with host countries and consistent with humanitarian objectives;

25. *Appeals* to the international community to respond positively, in the spirit of solidarity and burden- and responsibility-sharing, to the third-country resettlement needs of African refugees, notes in this regard the importance of using resettlement strategically, as part of situation-specific comprehensive responses to refugee situations, and to this end encourages States, the Office of the High Commissioner and other relevant partners to make full use of the Multilateral Framework of Understandings on Resettlement,[29] where appropriate;

26. *Calls upon* the international donor community to provide material and financial assistance for the implementation of programmes intended for the rehabilitation of the environment and infrastructure affected by refugees in countries of asylum as well as internally displaced persons, where appropriate;

27. *Urges* the international community, in the spirit of international solidarity and burden-sharing, to continue to fund generously the refugee programmes of the Office of the High Commissioner and, taking into account the substantially increased needs of programmes in Africa, inter alia, as a result of repatriation possibilities, to ensure that Africa receives a fair and equitable share of the resources designated for refugees;

28. *Encourages* the Office of the High Commissioner and interested States to identify protracted refugee situations which might lend themselves to resolution through the development of specific, multilateral, comprehensive and practical approaches to resolving such refugee situations, including improvement of international burden- and responsibility-sharing and realization of durable solutions, within a multilateral context;

29. *Expresses grave concern* about the plight of internally displaced persons in Africa, notes the efforts of African States in strengthening the regional mechanisms for the protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons, calls upon States to take concrete action to pre-empt internal displacement and to meet the protection and assistance needs of internally displaced persons, recalls in that regard the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement,[30] takes note of the current activities of the Office of the High Commissioner related to the protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons, including in the context of inter-agency arrangements in this field, emphasizes that such activities should be consistent with relevant General Assembly resolutions and should not undermine the refugee mandate of the Office and the institution

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[29] Available from www.unhcr.org.

[30] E/CN.4/1998/53/Add.2, annex.

of asylum, and encourages the High Commissioner to continue his dialogue with States on the role of his Office in this regard;

30. *Invites* the Representative of the Secretary-General on the human rights of internally displaced persons to continue his ongoing dialogue with Member States and the intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned, in accordance with his mandate, and to include information thereon in his reports to the Human Rights Council and the General Assembly;

31. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a comprehensive report on assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session, taking fully into account the efforts expended by countries of asylum, under the item entitled "Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, questions relating to refugees, returnees and displaced persons and humanitarian questions".

RESOLUTION 64/130

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/432, para. 40)[31]

64/130. Policies and programmes involving youth

The General Assembly,

Recalling the World Programme of Action for Youth, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolutions 50/81 of 14 December 1995 and 62/126 of 18 December 2007,[32]

Recalling also that, in its resolution 62/126, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to report to the Assembly at its sixty-fourth session, through the Commission for Social Development at its forty-seventh session, on the implementation of eleven of the fifteen priority areas of the World Programme of Action for Youth, namely armed conflict, drug abuse, environment, girls and young women, health, HIV/AIDS, information and communications technology, intergenerational issues, juvenile delinquency, leisure-time activities and youth participation in society and decision-making,

Emphasizing that all fifteen priority areas of the World Programme of Action for Youth are interrelated,

Stressing the important role of effective sectoral and cross-sectoral national youth policies, reflecting youth in all its diversity, as well as of international cooperation in promoting the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Taking note of the report of the Africa Commission entitled "Realizing the potential of Africa's youth",[33] which addresses ways to create employment for young people through growth led by the private sector and improved competitiveness of African economies,

Welcoming the fifth World Youth Congress, to be held in Istanbul, Turkey, European Capital of Culture 2010, from 31 July to 13 August 2010, and also welcoming the initiative of the Government of Mexico to host a World Youth Conference, in Mexico City from 24 to 27 August 2010, which will focus on the issue of youth and development in the context of the Millennium Development Goals,

Welcoming also the youth-related initiatives of the Alliance of Civilizations, such as Silatech, a youth employment initiative launched by Qatar, the annual League of Arab States Youth Forum, whose third forum, on the theme "Youth and migration: a human-rights based approach", was held in Assilah, Morocco, from 14 to 20 November 2009, and the inaugural Youth Olympic Games, to be held in Singapore from 14 to 26 August 2010, the aim of which is to inspire young people around the world to embrace, embody and express the Olympic values of excellence, friendship and respect, welcoming further the declaration of 2010 as the International Year for the Rapprochement of Cultures, and in this regard stressing the importance of increasing international youth interaction,

Recognizing the special vulnerability of young people in the current financial and economic crisis, in particular with regard to youth unemployment and precarious working conditions,

Emphasizing that all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights, are endowed with reason and conscience and should act towards one another in a spirit of brotherhood, and in this regard underlining the particular vulnerability of young people to all forms and manifestations of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, and also to various extremist political parties, movements and groups that are based on neo-Nazi, neo-fascist and other violent ideologies,

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[31] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Swaziland, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Uruguay.

[32] In paragraph 1 of its resolution 47/1, the Commission for Social Development reaffirmed the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond and the Supplement thereto as a unified set of guiding principles, to be referred to henceforth as the World Programme of Action for Youth.

[33] Available from www.africacommission.um.dk.

1. *Reaffirms* the World Programme of Action for Youth;[34]

2. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Implementation of the World Programme of Action for Youth: progress and constraints with respect to the well-being of youth and their role in civil society";[35]

3. *Stresses* that young people are often among the main victims of armed conflict, expresses its deep concern at the violations of international humanitarian law that undermine the protection of the human rights of civilians in armed conflict, calls upon Member States, in accordance with the World Programme of Action for Youth, to take concrete measures to further protect and assist young women and men in these situations, bearing in mind that armed and other types of conflict and terrorism and hostage-taking still persist in many parts of the world and that aggression, foreign occupation and ethnic and other types of conflict are an ongoing reality affecting young persons in nearly every region, from which they need to be protected, and also calls upon Member States to recognize young women and men as important actors in conflict prevention, peacebuilding and post-conflict processes;

4. *Urges* Member States to strengthen or establish, in collaboration with young people and youth-led organizations, youth-friendly substance abuse prevention programmes and affordable treatment and rehabilitation programmes, in accordance with existing anti-drug conventions and other instruments of the United Nations, in order to address the vulnerability of young people to substance abuse and to avoid the marginalization of young people with a substance abuse problem;

5. *Emphasizes* that the deterioration of the natural environment, including the impacts of climate change and loss of biodiversity, is one of the principal concerns of young people worldwide and has direct implications for the well-being and empowerment of youth both now and in the future, and therefore urges Member States:

(*a*) To promote environmental awareness and protection among youth, inter alia, by supporting programmes for non-formal education implemented by youth-led organizations, in accordance with the goals of the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development;

(*b*) To strengthen the participation of young people, as important actors in the protection, preservation and improvement of the environment at the local, national and international levels, as envisioned in Agenda 21;[36]

(*c*) To ensure the involvement of young people in the renewable and sustainable energy sectors, through access to adequate education and training, the promotion of youth employment and entrepreneurship opportunities and cooperation initiatives in these sectors;

6. *Reaffirms* the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[37] the Beijing Platform for Action[38] and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly,[39] urges Member States to take measures, including the involvement of boys and young men, to promote gender equality in all aspects of society and to eliminate violence against girls and young women as a matter of priority, and notes the importance of promoting women leaders in the public and private sectors as role models for young women and girls;

7. *Calls upon* Member States to work to ensure that young people enjoy the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health by providing youth with access to sustainable health systems and social services without discrimination and by paying special attention to, and raising awareness of, nutrition, including eating disorders and obesity, to the effects of non-communicable and communicable diseases and to sexual and reproductive health, as well as to measures to prevent sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV/AIDS;

8. *Reaffirms* the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS[40] and the Political Declaration on HIV/AIDS,[41] and urges Member States to fulfil their commitments on the provision of universal access to prevention, treatment, care and support in order to halt and reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS by 2015, engage young people in the AIDS response, ensure education and employment opportunities to reduce vulnerability to HIV, provide youth-friendly health services, including voluntary and confidential counselling and testing, continue efforts to eliminate the stigma of, and discrimination against,

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[34] Resolution 50/81, annex, and resolution 62/126, annex.

[35] A/64/61-E/2009/3.

[36] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex II.

[37] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

[38] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[39] Resolution S-23/2, annex, and resolution S-23/3, annex.

[40] Resolution S-26/2, annex.

[41] Resolution 60/262, annex.

young people living with HIV, and ensure that HIV/AIDS policies and programmes are reviewed so that they contribute to reducing the particular vulnerability of young women and girls to HIV;

9. *Stresses* the potential of information and communications technology to improve the quality of life of young people, and calls upon Member States, with the support of the United Nations system, donors, the private sector and civil society, to ensure universal, non-discriminatory, equitable, safe and affordable access to information and communications technology, especially in schools and public places, and to remove the barriers to bridging the digital divide, including through transfer of technology and international cooperation, as well as to promote the development of locally relevant content and implement measures to equip young people with the knowledge and skills to use information and communications technology appropriately and safely;

10. *Recognizes* the importance of strengthening intergenerational partnerships and solidarity among generations, and in this regard calls upon Member States to promote opportunities for voluntary, constructive and regular interaction between young people and older generations in the family, the workplace and society at large;

11. *Urges* Member States to develop policies and programmes to reduce youth violence and youth involvement in crime and ensure that judicial systems and rehabilitation services are safe, fair, age-appropriate and in accordance with the relevant international human rights instruments and promote the well-being of youth by:

(*a*) Promoting systematic and comprehensive prevention measures regarding youth violence;

(*b*) Providing non-discriminatory access to education, opportunities for decent employment and leisure programmes that improve the competencies and self-esteem of young people in detention;

(*c*) Promoting, where appropriate, the physical and legal separation of juvenile from adult judicial and penal systems;

(*d*) Promoting alternatives to detention and institutionalization, such as social and community service;

(*e*) Providing to young people after they leave juvenile detention support services that ensure their full rehabilitation and reintegration into society;

12. *Recognizes* that leisure time is an important aspect of youth well-being and health as well as of crime and violence prevention, and in this regard calls upon Member States to protect the right of all young people, particularly girls and young women, to rest and leisure and to enhance opportunities for the exercise of this right in a positive way;

13. *Also recognizes* that the implementation of the World Programme of Action for Youth and the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, require the full and effective participation of young people and youth-led organizations, and therefore encourages Member States to ensure the full and effective participation of youth in the life of society and in decision-making processes by:

(*a*) Creating effective channels of cooperation and information exchange among young people, their national Governments and other decision makers;

(*b*) Encouraging and promoting youth-led organizations and the important role they play in supporting young people's civic engagement, capacity-building and providing non-formal education through financial and technical support and promotion of their activities;

(*c*) Supporting, including through State and local governments, the establishment and functioning of independent national youth councils or equivalent bodies;

(*d*) Strengthening the participation and inclusion of young persons with disabilities in decision-making processes on an equal basis with others;

(*e*) Providing young people who are disconnected or socially and economically excluded with opportunities to participate in decision-making processes to ensure their full involvement in society;

14. *Calls upon* Member States to consider using the goals and targets proposed in the reports of the Secretary-General[42] at the national level as a means of facilitating the monitoring of progress towards the implementation of the World Programme of Action for Youth;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to intensify efforts to further develop and propose a set of possible indicators linked to the World Programme of Action for Youth and the proposed goals and targets, in order to assist States in assessing the situation of youth, with a view to allowing it to be considered by the Commission for Social Development and by the Statistical Commission at the earliest opportunity;

16. *Recognizes* the positive contribution that youth representatives make to the General Assembly and other United Nations bodies and their role in serving as an important channel of communication between young people and the United Nations, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to support adequately the United Nations Programme on Youth of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat so that it can continue to facilitate their effective participation in meetings;

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[42] A/62/61/Add.1-E/2007/7/Add.1 and A/64/61-E/2009/3.

17. *Urges* Member States to consider including youth representatives in their delegations at all relevant discussions in the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and its functional commissions and relevant United Nations conferences, as appropriate, bearing in mind the principles of gender balance and non-discrimination, and emphasizes that such youth representatives should be selected through a transparent process that ensures that they have a suitable mandate to represent young people in their countries;

18. *Recognizes* the need for a greater geographical balance of youth representation, and encourages Member States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to contribute to the United Nations Youth Fund in order to facilitate the participation of youth representatives from developing countries;

19. *Welcomes* the recent increased collaboration among United Nations entities in the area of youth development, and calls upon the United Nations Programme on Youth to continue to act as the focal point within the United Nations system for promoting further collaboration.

RESOLUTION 64/131

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/432, para. 40)[43]

64/131. Realizing the Millennium Development Goals for persons with disabilities

The General Assembly,

Recalling the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons,[44] the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities[45] and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,[46] in which persons with disabilities are recognized as both development agents and beneficiaries in all aspects of development,

Recalling also its previous resolutions on the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, in which it recognized the collective responsibility of Governments to uphold the principles of human dignity, equality and equity at the global level, and stressing the duty of Member States to achieve greater justice and equality for all, in particular persons with disabilities,

Gravely concerned that persons with disabilities are often subject to multiple or aggravated forms of discrimination and can be largely invisible in the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the Millennium Development Goals,

Noting that the entry into force of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, which is both a human rights treaty and a development tool, provides an opportunity to strengthen the policies related to and the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals, thereby contributing to the realization of a "society for all" in the twenty-first century,

Noting also that persons with disabilities make up an estimated 10 per cent of the world's population, of whom 80 per cent live in developing countries, and recognizing the importance of international cooperation and its promotion in support of national efforts, in particular for developing countries,

Concerned that the lack of data and information on disability and the situation of persons with disabilities at the national level contributes to the invisibility of persons with disabilities in official statistics, presenting an obstacle to achieving development planning and implementation that is inclusive of persons with disabilities,

Recognizing that the upcoming high-level plenary meeting to review the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals in 2010 is an important opportunity to enhance efforts to realize the Goals for all, in particular for persons with disabilities,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on realizing the Millennium Development Goals for persons with disabilities through the implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities;[47]

2. *Urges* Member States, and invites international organizations, regional organizations, including regional integration organizations, financial institutions, the private sector and civil society, in particular organizations representing

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[43] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Turkey, Uganda, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

[44] A/37/351/Add.1 and Corr.1, annex, sect. VIII, recommendation I (IV).

[45] Resolution 48/96, annex.

[46] Resolution 61/106, annex I.

[47] A/64/180.

persons with disabilities, as appropriate, to promote the realization of the Millennium Development Goals for persons with disabilities, inter alia, by explicitly including disability issues and persons with disabilities in national plans and tools designed to contribute to the full realization of the Goals;

3. *Urges* the United Nations system to make a concerted effort to integrate disability issues into its work, and in this regard encourages the Inter-Agency Support Group on the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities to continue working to ensure that development programmes, including Millennium Development Goals policies, processes and mechanisms, are inclusive of and accessible to persons with disabilities;

4. *Encourages* Member States to ensure that their international cooperation, including through international development programmes, is inclusive of and accessible to persons with disabilities;

5. *Calls upon* Governments and United Nations bodies and agencies to include disability issues and persons with disabilities in reviewing progress towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals and to step up efforts to include in their assessment the extent to which persons with disabilities are able to benefit from efforts to achieve the Goals;

6. *Calls upon* Governments to enable persons with disabilities to participate as agents and beneficiaries of development, in particular in all efforts aimed at achieving the Millennium Development Goals, by ensuring that programmes and policies, namely on eradicating extreme poverty and hunger, achieving universal primary education, promoting gender equality and the empowerment of women, reducing child mortality, improving maternal health, combating HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases, ensuring environmental sustainability and developing a global partnership for development, are inclusive of and accessible to persons with disabilities;

7. *Emphasizes* the importance of the participation of persons with disabilities at all levels of policymaking and development, which is critical to informing policymakers on the situation of persons with disabilities, the barriers they may face and ways to overcome obstacles to the full and equal enjoyment of their rights, to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals for all, including persons with disabilities, and to their socio-economic advancement;

8. *Encourages* international cooperation in the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals, including through global partnerships for development, which are crucial for the realization of the Goals for all, in particular for persons with disabilities;

9. *Encourages* Governments to develop and accelerate the exchange of information, guidelines and standards, best practices, legislative measures and government policies regarding the situation of persons with disabilities and disability issues, in particular as they relate to inclusion and accessibility;

10. *Calls upon* Governments to build a knowledge base of data and information about the situation of persons with disabilities that could be used to enable development policy planning, monitoring, evaluation and implementation to be disability-sensitive, in particular in the realization of the Millennium Development Goals for persons with disabilities, and in this regard:

(*a*) Requests the Secretary-General to disseminate widely and promote the use of the *Guidelines and Principles for the Development of Disability Statistics*[48] and the *Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses*[49] and to facilitate technical assistance, within existing resources, including the provision of assistance for capacity-building of Member States, in particular to developing countries;

(*b*) Encourages Member States to make use of statistics, to the extent possible, to integrate a disability perspective in reviewing their progress towards realizing the Millennium Development Goals for all;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit information on the implementation of the present resolution during the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly within the report requested by the Assembly in paragraph 13 (*b*) of its resolution 63/150 of 18 December 2008.

RESOLUTION 64/132

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/432, para. 40)[50]

64/132. Follow-up to the Second World Assembly on Ageing

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 57/167 of 18 December 2002, in which it endorsed the Political Declaration[51] and the Madrid

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[48] ST/ESA/STAT/SER.Y/10 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.01.XVII.15).

[49] ST/ESA/STAT/SER.M/67/Rev.2 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.07.XVII.8).

[50] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sudan (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Uzbekistan.

[51] *Report of the Second World Assembly on Ageing, Madrid, 8–12 April 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.IV.4), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002,[52] its resolution 58/134 of 22 December 2003, in which it took note, inter alia, of the road map for the implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action, and its resolutions 60/135 of 16 December 2005, 61/142 of 19 December 2006, 62/130 of 18 December 2007 and 63/151 of 18 December 2008,

Recognizing that, in many parts of the world, awareness of the Madrid Plan of Action remains limited or non-existent, which limits the scope of implementation efforts,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[53]

1. *Encourages* Governments to pay greater attention to building capacity to eradicate poverty among older persons, in particular older women, by mainstreaming ageing issues into poverty eradication strategies and national development plans, and to include both ageing-specific policies and ageing-mainstreaming efforts in their national strategies;

2. *Encourages* Member States to strengthen their efforts to develop national capacity to address their national implementation priorities identified during the review and appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002,[52] and invites Member States that have not done so to consider a step-by-step approach to developing capacity that includes the setting of national priorities, the strengthening of institutional mechanisms, research, data collection and analysis and the training of necessary personnel in the field of ageing;

3. *Also encourages* Member States to overcome obstacles to the implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action by devising strategies that take into account the entirety of the human life-course and foster intergenerational solidarity in order to increase the likelihood of greater success in the years ahead;

4. *Further encourages* Member States to place particular emphasis on choosing national priorities that are realistic, feasible and have the greatest likelihood of being achieved in the years ahead and to develop targets and indicators to measure progress in the implementation process;

5. *Recommends* that Member States increase awareness-raising of the Madrid Plan of Action, including by strengthening networks of national focal points on ageing, working with the regional commissions and enlisting the help of the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat to seek increased attention to ageing issues;

6. *Encourages* Governments that have not done so to designate focal points for handling follow-up of national plans of action on ageing;

7. *Invites* Governments to conduct their ageing-related policies through inclusive and participatory consultations with relevant stakeholders and social development partners, in the interest of developing effective policies creating national policy ownership and consensus-building;

8. *Calls upon* Governments to ensure, as appropriate, conditions that enable families and communities to provide care and protection to persons as they age and to evaluate improvement in the health status of older persons, including on a gender-specific basis, and to reduce disability and mortality;

9. *Encourages* Governments to continue their efforts to implement the Madrid Plan of Action and to mainstream the concerns of older persons into their policy agendas, bearing in mind the crucial importance of family intergenerational interdependence, solidarity and reciprocity for social development and the realization of all human rights for older persons, and to prevent age discrimination and provide social integration;

10. *Invites* Member States to ensure that older persons have access to information about their rights so as to enable them to participate fully and justly in their societies and to claim full enjoyment of all human rights;

11. *Calls upon* Member States to develop their national capacity for monitoring and enforcing the rights of older persons, in consultation with all sectors of society, including organizations of older persons through, inter alia, national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights where applicable;

12. *Also calls upon* Member States to strengthen and incorporate a gender perspective into all policy actions on ageing, as well as to eliminate and address discrimination on the basis of age and gender, and recommends that Member States engage with all sectors of society, including women's groups and organizations of older persons, in changing negative stereotypes about older persons, in particular older women, and promote positive images of older persons;

13. *Further calls upon* Member States to address the well-being and adequate health care of older persons, as well as any cases of neglect, abuse and violence against older persons, by designing more effective prevention strategies and stronger laws and policies to address these problems and their underlying factors;

14. *Encourages* Member States to consider how best the international framework of norms and standards can ensure the full enjoyment of the rights of older persons, including, as appropriate, the possibility of instituting new policies, instruments or measures to further improve the situation of older persons;

15. *Calls upon* Member States to take concrete measures to further protect and assist older persons in emergency situations, in accordance with the Madrid Plan of Action;

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[52] Ibid., annex II.

[53] A/64/127.

16. *Stresses* that, in order to complement national development efforts, enhanced international cooperation is essential to support developing countries in implementing the Madrid Plan of Action, while recognizing the importance of assistance and the provision of financial assistance;

17. *Encourages* the international community to enhance international cooperation to support national efforts to eradicate poverty, in keeping with internationally agreed goals, in order to achieve sustainable social and economic support for older persons;

18. *Also encourages* the international community to support national efforts to forge stronger partnerships with civil society, including organizations of older persons, academia, research foundations, community-based organizations, including caregivers, and the private sector, in an effort to help to build capacity on ageing issues;

19. *Encourages* the international community and the relevant agencies of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates, to support national efforts to provide funding for research and data-collection initiatives on ageing in order to better understand the challenges and opportunities presented by population ageing and to provide policymakers with more accurate and more specific information on gender and ageing;

20. *Recommends* that Member States reaffirm the role of United Nations focal points on ageing, increase technical cooperation efforts, expand the role of the regional commissions on ageing issues and provide added resources for those efforts, facilitate the coordination of national and international non-governmental organizations on ageing and enhance cooperation with academia on a research agenda on ageing;

21. *Reiterates* the need for additional capacity-building at the national level in order to promote and facilitate further implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action, as well as the result of its first review and appraisal cycle, and in that connection encourages Governments to support the United Nations Trust Fund for Ageing to enable the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat to provide expanded assistance to countries, upon their request;

22. *Recommends* that ongoing efforts to achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[54] take into account the situation of older persons;

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, and also requests the Secretary-General to submit to the Assembly at its sixty-fifth session, taking into consideration the discussions and conclusions of the Commission for Social Development at its forty-eighth session, a comprehensive report on the current status of the social situation, well-being, development and rights of older persons at the national and regional levels.

RESOLUTION 64/133

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/432, para. 40)[55]

64/133. Follow-up to the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family and beyond

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 44/82 of 8 December 1989, 50/142 of 21 December 1995, 52/81 of 12 December 1997, 54/124 of 17 December 1999, 56/113 of 19 December 2001, 57/164 of 18 December 2002, 58/15 of 3 December 2003, 59/111 of 6 December 2004, 59/147 of 20 December 2004, 60/133 of 16 December 2005 and 62/129 of 18 December 2007 concerning the proclamation of the International Year of the Family and the preparations for, observance of and follow-up to the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family,

Noting that in paragraph 5 of its resolution 59/111 and paragraph 2 of its resolution 59/147, respectively, the General Assembly underlined the need to realize the objectives of the International Year of the Family and to develop concrete measures and approaches to address national priorities in dealing with family issues,

Recognizing that the preparations for and observance of the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family in 2004 constituted an important opportunity to strengthen and enhance the effectiveness of efforts at all levels to carry out specific programmes within the framework of the objectives of the Year,

Aware that a major objective of the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family is to address the major concern of strengthening the capacity of national institutions to formulate, implement and monitor policies in respect of families,

Noting that the family-related provisions of the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits of the 1990s and their follow-up processes continue to provide policy guidance on ways to strengthen family-centred components of policies and programmes as part of an integrated comprehensive approach to development,

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[54] See resolution 55/2.

[55] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Australia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Russian Federation, Sudan (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China) and Uzbekistan.

Convinced of the necessity of ensuring an action-oriented follow-up to the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family beyond 2004,

Recognizing the important catalytic and supportive role of United Nations bodies, the specialized agencies and the regional commissions in ensuring an action-oriented follow-up in the field of the family, including their positive contribution to strengthening national capacities in family policymaking,

Cognizant of the need for continued inter-agency cooperation on family issues in order to generate greater awareness of this subject among the governing bodies of the United Nations system,

Convinced that civil society, including research and academic institutions, has a pivotal role in advocacy, promotion, research and policymaking in respect of family policy development and capacity-building,

Noting that, in its resolution 59/111, the General Assembly decided to celebrate the anniversary of the International Year of the Family on a ten-year basis,

Taking note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General,[56]

1. *Encourages* Governments to continue to make every possible effort to realize the objectives of the International Year of the Family and to integrate a family perspective into national policymaking;

2. *Invites* Governments and regional intergovernmental entities to provide for more systematic national and regional data on family well-being and to identify and ensure support for constructive family policy developments, including the exchange of information on good policies and practices;

3. *Encourages* Member States to adopt holistic approaches to policies and programmes that confront family poverty and social exclusion, and invites Member States to stimulate public debate and consultations on family-oriented and gender- and child-sensitive social protection policies, in accordance with the objectives of the International Year of the Family;

4. *Further encourages* Member States to promote policies and programmes supporting intergenerational solidarity at the family and community levels and geared to reducing the vulnerability of younger and older generations through various social protection strategies;

5. *Urges* Member States to create a conducive environment to strengthen and support all families, recognizing that equality between women and men and respect for all the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all family members are essential to family well-being and to society at large, noting the importance of reconciliation of work and family life and recognizing the principle that both parents have common responsibilities for the upbringing and development of the child;

6. *Invites* Governments to continue to develop strategies and programmes aimed at strengthening national capacities to address national priorities relating to family issues, and encourages the United Nations Programme on the Family, within its mandate, to assist Governments in this regard, including through the provision of technical assistance to build and develop national capacities in the area of formulating, implementing and monitoring family policies;

7. *Encourages* Governments to support the United Nations Trust Fund on Family Activities to enable the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat to provide expanded assistance to countries, upon their request;

8. *Recommends* that United Nations agencies and bodies, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, research and academic institutions and the private sector play a supportive role in promoting the objectives of the International Year of the Family;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session, through the Commission for Social Development at its forty-ninth session and the Economic and Social Council, on the implementation of the present resolution and on the appropriate ways and means to observe the twentieth anniversary of the International Year of the Family, in 2014;

10. *Decides* to consider the topic "Preparations for and observance of the twentieth anniversary of the International Year of the Family" at its sixty-sixth session under the sub-item entitled "Social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, ageing, disabled persons and the family".

RESOLUTION 64/134

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/432, para. 40)[57]

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[56] A/64/134.

[57] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Belarus, Mexico, Russian Federation, Sudan (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China) and Turkey.

64/134. Proclamation of 2010 as the International Year of Youth: Dialogue and Mutual Understanding

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind the Charter of the United Nations and the principles contained therein,

Considering that it is necessary to disseminate among young people the ideals of peace, respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, solidarity and dedication to the objectives of progress and development,

Recalling the provisions of the Declaration on the Promotion among Youth of the Ideals of Peace, Mutual Respect and Understanding between Peoples, proclaimed by the General Assembly in its resolution 2037 (XX) of 7 December 1965,

Recalling also its resolutions 50/81 of 14 December 1995 and 62/126 of 18 December 2007, by which it adopted the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond and the Supplement thereto,[58]

Bearing in mind that the ways in which the challenges and potential of young people are addressed will influence current social and economic conditions and the well-being and livelihood of future generations,

Bearing in mind also that 2010 will mark the twenty-fifth anniversary of the 1985 International Youth Year: Participation, Development, Peace, and stressing the importance of commemorating this anniversary,

Convinced that young people should be encouraged to devote their energy, enthusiasm and creativity to economic, social and cultural development and the promotion of mutual understanding,

Welcoming the fifth World Youth Congress, to be held in Istanbul, Turkey, European Capital of Culture 2010, from 31 July to 13 August 2010, and the initiative of the Government of Mexico to host a World Youth Conference, in Mexico City from 24 to 27 August 2010, both of which will focus on the issue of youth and development in the context of the Millennium Development Goals, as well as the inaugural Youth Olympic Games, to be held in Singapore from 14 to 26 August 2010, the aim of which is to inspire young people around the world to embrace, embody and express the Olympic values of excellence, friendship and respect,

1. *Decides* to proclaim the year commencing on 12 August 2010 the International Year of Youth: Dialogue and Mutual Understanding;

2. *Invites* all Member States, the specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system and youth organizations to take advantage of the Year to build on the synergies among the activities to be carried out at the national, regional and international levels during the Year and to promote actions at all levels aimed at disseminating among young people the ideals of peace, freedom, progress, solidarity and dedication to the objectives and goals of progress and development, including the Millennium Development Goals;

3. *Decides* to organize under the auspices of the United Nations a world youth conference as the highlight of the Year, and invites the President of the General Assembly to conduct open-ended informal consultations with Member States with a view to determining the modalities of the conference, which is to be funded by voluntary contributions;

4. *Requests* Member States, international and, where appropriate, regional organizations, and all relevant stakeholders, including the private sector and civil society, to support all activities related to the Year, including by means of voluntary contributions;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 64/135

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/432, para. 40)[59]

64/135. Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Recalling the World Summit for Social Development, held at Copenhagen from 6 to 12 March 1995, and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly entitled "World Summit for Social Development and beyond: achieving social development for all in a globalizing world", held at Geneva from 26 June to 1 July 2000,

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[58] In paragraph 1 of its resolution 47/1, the Commission for Social Development reaffirmed the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond and the Supplement thereto as a unified set of guiding principles, to be referred to henceforth as the World Programme of Action for Youth.

[59] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sudan (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Reaffirming that the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the Programme of Action[60] and the further initiatives for social development adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-fourth special session,[61] as well as a continued global dialogue on social development issues, constitute the basic framework for the promotion of social development for all at the national and international levels,

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration[62] and the development goals contained therein, as well as the commitments made at major United Nations summits, conferences and special sessions, including the commitments made at the 2005 World Summit,[63]

Recalling also its resolution 57/270 B of 23 June 2003 on the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields,

Recalling further its resolution 60/209 of 22 December 2005 on the implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997–2006),

Recalling its resolution 63/303 of 9 July 2009 on the Outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development,

Noting with appreciation the ministerial declaration adopted at the high-level segment of the substantive session of 2006 of the Economic and Social Council, on "Creating an environment at the national and international levels conducive to generating full and productive employment and decent work for all, and its impact on sustainable development",[64]

Noting that the decent work agenda of the International Labour Organization, with its four strategic objectives, has an important role to play, as reaffirmed in the International Labour Organization Declaration on Social Justice for a Fair Globalization[65] and in the Global Jobs Pact, in achieving the objective of full and productive employment and decent work for all, including its objective of social protection,

Emphasizing the need to enhance the role of the Commission for Social Development in the follow-up and review of the World Summit for Social Development and the outcome of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly,

Recognizing that a people-centred approach must be at the centre of economic and social development,

Expressing deep concern that attainment of the social development objectives can be hindered by instability in global and national financial markets, as well as challenges brought about by the ongoing food and energy crises,

Recognizing the complex character of the current global food crisis as a combination of several major factors, both structural and conjunctural, also negatively affected by, inter alia, environmental degradation, drought and desertification, global climate change, natural disasters and the lack of the necessary technology, and recognizing also that a strong commitment from national Governments and the international community as a whole is required to confront the major threats to food security,

Affirming its strong support for fair globalization and the need to translate growth into eradication of poverty and commitment to strategies and policies that aim to promote full, freely chosen and productive employment and decent work for all and that these should constitute a fundamental component of relevant national and international policies as well as national development strategies, including poverty reduction strategies, and reaffirming that employment creation and decent work should be incorporated into macroeconomic policies, taking fully into account the impact and social dimension of globalization, the benefits and costs of which are often unevenly shared and distributed,

Recognizing that social inclusion is a means for achieving social integration and is crucial for fostering stable, safe, harmonious, peaceful and just societies and for improving social cohesion so as to create an environment for development and progress,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[66]

2. *Welcomes* the reaffirmation by Governments of their will and commitment to continue implementing the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the Programme of Action,[60] in particular to eradicate poverty, promote full and productive employment and foster social integration to achieve stable, safe and just societies for all;

3. *Recognizes* that the implementation of the Copenhagen commitments and the attainment of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, are mutually reinforcing and that the Copenhagen commitments are crucial to a coherent people-centred approach to development;

4. *Reaffirms* that the Commission for Social Development continues to have the primary responsibility for

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[60] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6–12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[61] Resolution S-24/2, annex.

[62] See resolution 55/2.

[63] See resolution 60/1.

[64] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-first Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/61/3/Rev.1), chap. III, para. 50.

[65] A/63/538-E/2009/4, annex.

[66] A/64/157.

the follow-up and review of the World Summit for Social Development and the outcome of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly and that it serves as the main United Nations forum for an intensified global dialogue on social development issues, and calls upon Member States, the relevant specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system and civil society to enhance their support for its work;

5. *Expresses deep concern* that the world financial and economic crisis, the world food and energy crises, and continuing food insecurity and climate change, as well as the lack of results so far in the multilateral trade negotiations and a loss of confidence in the international economic system, have negative implications for social development, in particular for the achievement of poverty eradication, full and productive employment and decent work for all, and social integration;

6. *Recognizes* that poverty eradication, full and productive employment and decent work for all and social integration are interrelated and mutually reinforcing, and that an enabling environment therefore needs to be created so that all three objectives can be pursued simultaneously;

7. *Also recognizes* that the broad concept of social development affirmed by the World Summit for Social Development and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly has been weakened in national and international policymaking and that, while poverty eradication is a central part of development policy and discourse, further attention should be given to the other commitments agreed to at the Summit, in particular those concerning employment and social integration, which have also suffered from a general disconnect between economic and social policymaking;

8. *Acknowledges* that the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997–2006), launched after the World Summit for Social Development, has provided the long-term vision for sustained and concerted efforts at the national and international levels to eradicate poverty;

9. *Recognizes* that the implementation of the commitments made by Governments during the first Decade has fallen short of expectations, and welcomes the proclamation of the Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008–2017) by the General Assembly in its resolution 62/205 of 19 December 2007 in order to support, in an efficient and coordinated manner, the internationally agreed development goals related to poverty eradication, including the Millennium Development Goals;

10. *Emphasizes* that the major United Nations conferences and summits, including the Millennium Summit and the 2005 World Summit, as well as the International Conference on Financing for Development, in its Monterrey Consensus,[67] have reinforced the priority and urgency of poverty eradication within the United Nations development agenda;

11. *Also emphasizes* that poverty eradication policies should attack poverty by addressing its root and structural causes and manifestations, and that equity and the reduction of inequalities need to be incorporated in those policies;

12. *Stresses* that an enabling environment is a critical precondition for achieving equity and social development and that, while economic growth is essential, entrenched inequality and marginalization are an obstacle to the broad-based and sustained growth required for sustainable, inclusive, people-centred development, and recognizes the need to balance and ensure complementarity between measures to achieve growth and measures to achieve economic and social equity in order for there to be an impact on overall poverty levels;

13. *Also stresses* that stability in global financial systems and corporate social responsibility and accountability, as well as national economic policies that have an impact on other stakeholders, are essential in creating an enabling international environment to promote economic growth and social development;

14. *Recognizes* the need to promote respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms in order to address the most pressing social needs of people living in poverty, including through the design and development of appropriate mechanisms to strengthen and consolidate democratic institutions and governance;

15. *Reaffirms* the commitment to the empowerment of women and gender equality, as well as to the mainstreaming of a gender perspective into all development efforts, recognizing that these are critical for achieving sustainable development and for efforts to combat hunger, poverty and disease and to strengthen policies and programmes that improve, ensure and broaden the full participation of women in all spheres of political, economic, social and cultural life, as equal partners, and to improve their access to all resources needed for the full exercise of all their human rights and fundamental freedoms by removing persistent barriers, including ensuring equal access to full and productive employment and decent work, as well as strengthening their economic independence;

16. *Also reaffirms* the commitment to promote opportunities for full, freely chosen and productive employment, including for the most disadvantaged, as well as decent work for all, in order to deliver social justice combined with economic efficiency, with full respect for fundamental

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[67] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

principles and rights at work under conditions of equity, equality, security and dignity, and further reaffirms that macroeconomic policies should, inter alia, support employment creation, taking fully into account the social impact and dimension of globalization;

17. *Takes note with interest* of the adoption by the International Labour Conference on 10 June 2008 of the International Labour Organization Declaration on Social Justice for a Fair Globalization,[65] which acknowledges the particular role of the Organization in promoting a fair globalization and its responsibility to assist its members in their efforts, and the adoption by the International Labour Conference on 19 June 2009 of the Global Jobs Pact;

18. *Reaffirms* that there is an urgent need to create an environment at the national and international levels that is conducive to the attainment of full and productive employment and decent work for all as a foundation for sustainable development and that an environment that supports investment, growth and entrepreneurship is essential to the creation of new job opportunities, and also reaffirms that opportunities for men and women to obtain productive work in conditions of freedom, equity, security and human dignity are essential to ensuring the eradication of hunger and poverty, the improvement of economic and social well-being for all, the achievement of sustained economic growth and sustainable development of all nations and a fully inclusive and equitable globalization;

19. *Stresses* the importance of removing obstacles to the realization of the right of peoples to self-determination, in particular of peoples living under colonial or other forms of alien domination or foreign occupation, which adversely affect their social and economic development, including their exclusion from labour markets;

20. *Reaffirms* that violence, in its many manifestations, including domestic violence, particularly against women, children, older persons and persons with disabilities, and especially against persons belonging to more than one of these groups, is a growing threat to the security of individuals, families and communities everywhere; total social breakdown is an all too real contemporary experience; organized crime, illegal drugs, the illicit arms trade, trafficking in human beings, particularly women and children, ethnic and religious conflict, civil war, terrorism, all forms of extremist violence, xenophobia, and politically motivated killing and genocide present fundamental threats to societies and the global social order; they also present compelling and urgent reasons for action by Governments individually and, as appropriate, jointly to foster social cohesion while recognizing, protecting and valuing diversity;

21. *Calls upon* the organizations of the United Nations system to commit themselves to mainstreaming the goal of full and productive employment and decent work for all in their policies, programmes and activities;

22. *Requests* the United Nations funds, programmes and agencies and invites financial institutions to support efforts to mainstream the goals of full and productive employment and decent work for all in their policies, programmes and activities;

23. *Recognizes* that promoting full employment and decent work also requires investing in education, training and skills development for women and men, and girls and boys, strengthening social protection and health systems and applying international labour standards;

24. *Also recognizes* that full and productive employment and decent work for all, which encompass social protection, fundamental principles and rights at work, tripartism and social dialogue, are key elements of sustainable development for all countries and are therefore a priority objective of international cooperation;

25. *Stresses* that policies and strategies to achieve full employment and decent work for all should include appropriate specific measures to promote gender equality and foster social integration for social groups such as youth, persons with disabilities and older persons, as well as migrants and indigenous peoples, on an equal basis with others;

26. *Also stresses* the need to allocate adequate resources for the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women in the workplace, including unequal access to labour market participation and wage inequalities, as well as reconciliation of work and private life for both women and men;

27. *Encourages* States to promote youth employment by, inter alia, developing and implementing action plans in collaboration with all relevant stakeholders;

28. *Also encourages* States to pursue efforts to promote the concerns of older persons and persons with disabilities and their organizations in the planning, implementation and evaluation of all development programmes and policies;

29. *Stresses* that policies and programmes designed to achieve poverty eradication, full employment and decent work for all should include specific measures to foster social integration, including by providing marginalized socio-economic sectors and groups with equal access to opportunities and social protection;

30. *Acknowledges* the important nexus between international migration and social development, and stresses the importance of enforcing labour law effectively with regard to migrant workers' labour relations and working conditions, inter alia, those related to their remuneration and conditions of health, safety at work and the right to freedom of association;

31. *Recognizes* that, since the convening of the World Summit for Social Development in Copenhagen in 1995, advances have been made in addressing and promoting social

integration, including through the adoption of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002,[68] the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond and the Supplement thereto,[69] the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,[70] the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples[71] and the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action;[72]

32. *Also recognizes* the importance of providing social protection schemes for the formal and informal economy as instruments to achieve equity, inclusion and stability and cohesion of societies, and emphasizes the importance of supporting national efforts aimed at bringing informal workers into the formal economy;

33. *Further recognizes* that the social integration of people living in poverty should encompass addressing and meeting their basic human needs, including nutrition, health, water, sanitation, housing and access to education and employment, through integrated development strategies;

34. *Reaffirms* that social integration policies should seek to reduce inequalities, promote access to basic social services, education for all and health care, increase the participation on equal terms and integration of social groups, particularly youth, older persons and persons with disabilities, and address the challenges posed by globalization and market-driven reforms to social development in order for all people in all countries to benefit from globalization;

35. *Urges* Governments, with the cooperation of relevant entities, to develop systems of social protection and to extend or broaden, as appropriate, their effectiveness and coverage, including for workers in the informal economy, recognizing the need for social protection systems to provide social security and support labour-market participation, and invites the International Labour Organization to strengthen its social protection strategies, including assistance to countries in building social protection floors, and policies on extending social security coverage, and also urges Governments, while taking account of national circumstances, to focus on the needs of those living in, or vulnerable to, poverty and give particular consideration to universal access to basic social security systems;

36. *Requests* the United Nations system to support national efforts to achieve social development, in particular fostering social integration, at the local, national, regional and international levels, in a coherent, coordinated and results-based manner;

37. *Reaffirms* the commitment to promote the rights of indigenous peoples in the areas of education, employment, housing, sanitation, health and social security, and also notes the attention paid to those areas in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples;

38. *Recognizes* the need to formulate social development policies in an integral, articulated and participative manner, recognizing poverty as a multidimensional phenomenon, calls for interlinked public policies on this matter, and underlines the need for public policies to be included in a comprehensive development and well-being strategy;

39. *Acknowledges* the important role that the public sector can play as an employer and in developing an environment that enables the effective generation of full and productive employment and decent work for all;

40. *Also acknowledges* the vital role that the private sector can play in generating new investments, employment and financing for development and in advancing efforts towards full employment and decent work;

41. *Recognizes* that the majority of poor people live and work in rural areas, that priority should be given to agricultural and non-farm sectors and that steps should be taken to anticipate and offset the negative social and economic consequences of globalization and to maximize its benefits for poor people living and working in rural areas;

42. *Also recognizes* the need to give priority to investing in and further contributing to sustainable agricultural development and microenterprises, small and medium-sized enterprises and entrepreneurship cooperatives and other forms of social enterprises and the participation and entrepreneurship of women as means to promote full and productive employment and decent work for all;

43. *Reaffirms* the commitments made in respect of "Meeting the special needs of Africa" at the 2005 World Summit,[73] underlines the call of the Economic and Social Council for enhanced coordination within the United Nations system and the ongoing efforts to harmonize the current initiatives on Africa, and requests the Commission for Social Development to continue to give due prominence in its work to

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[68] *Report of the Second World Assembly on Ageing, Madrid, 8–12 April 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.IV.4), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[69] Resolution 50/81, annex, and resolution 62/126, annex. In paragraph 1 of its resolution 47/1, the Commission for Social Development reaffirmed the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond and the Supplement thereto as a unified set of guiding principles, to be referred to henceforth as the World Programme of Action for Youth.

[70] Resolution 61/106, annex I.

[71] Resolution 61/295, annex.

[72] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[73] See resolution 60/1, para 68.

the social dimensions of the New Partnership for Africa's Development;[74]

44. *Also reaffirms* that each country has the primary responsibility for its own economic and social development and that the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized, and underlines the importance of adopting effective measures, including new financial mechanisms, as appropriate, to support the efforts of developing countries to achieve sustained economic growth, sustainable development, poverty eradication and the strengthening of their democratic systems;

45. *Further reaffirms*, in this context, that international cooperation has an essential role in assisting developing countries, including the least developed countries, in strengthening their human, institutional and technological capacity;

46. *Stresses* that the international community shall enhance its efforts to create an enabling environment for social development and poverty eradication through increasing market access for developing countries, technology transfer on mutually agreed terms, financial aid and a comprehensive solution to the external debt problem;

47. *Also stresses* that international trade and stable financial systems can be effective tools to create favourable conditions for the development of all countries and that trade barriers and some trading practices continue to have negative effects on employment growth, particularly in developing countries;

48. *Acknowledges* that good governance and the rule of law at the national and international levels are essential for sustained economic growth, sustainable development and the eradication of poverty and hunger;

49. *Urges* developed countries that have not yet done so in accordance with their commitments to make concrete efforts towards meeting the targets of 0.7 per cent of their gross national product for official development assistance to developing countries and 0.15 to 0.2 per cent of their gross national product to least developed countries, and encourages developing countries to build on the progress achieved in ensuring that official development assistance is used effectively to help to meet development goals and targets;

50. *Urges* Member States and the international community to fulfil all their commitments to meet the demands for social development, including social services and assistance, that have arisen from the global financial and economic crisis, which particularly affects the poorest and most vulnerable;

51. *Welcomes* the contribution to the mobilization of resources for social development by the initiatives taken on a voluntary basis by groups of Member States based on innovative financing mechanisms, including those that aim to provide further drug access at affordable prices to developing countries on a sustainable and predictable basis, such as the International Drug Purchase Facility, UNITAID, as well as other initiatives, such as the International Finance Facility for Immunization and the Advance Market Commitments for Vaccines, and notes the New York Declaration of 20 September 2004, which launched the Action against Hunger and Poverty initiative and called for further attention to raise funds urgently needed to help to meet the Millennium Development Goals and to complement and ensure the long-term stability and predictability of foreign aid;

52. *Reaffirms* that social development requires the active involvement of all actors in the development process, such as civil society organizations, including workers' and employers' organizations, as well as corporations and small and medium-sized businesses, and that partnerships among all relevant actors are increasingly becoming part of national and international cooperation for social development, and also reaffirms that, within countries, partnerships among the Government, civil society and the private sector can contribute effectively to the achievement of social development goals;

53. *Underlines* the responsibility of the private sector, at both the national and the international levels, including small and large companies and transnational corporations, regarding not only the economic and financial but also the development, social, gender and environmental implications of their activities, their obligations towards their workers and their contributions to achieving sustainable development, including social development, and emphasizes the need to take concrete actions on corporate responsibility and accountability, including through the participation of all relevant stakeholders, inter alia, for the prevention or prosecution of corruption;

54. *Stresses* the importance of promoting corporate social responsibility and accountability, encourages responsible business practices, such as those promoted by the Global Compact, and invites the private sector to take into account not only the economic and financial implications but also the development, social, human rights, including rights at work, gender and environmental implications of its undertakings, and underlines the importance of the International Labour Organization Tripartite Declaration of Principles concerning Multinational Enterprises and Social Policy;

55. *Invites* the Secretary-General, the Economic and Social Council, the regional commissions, the relevant specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system and other intergovernmental forums, within their respective mandates, to continue to integrate into their work programmes and give priority attention to the Copenhagen commitments and the Declaration on the tenth anniversary of

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[74] A/57/304, annex.

the World Summit for Social Development,[75] to continue to be actively involved in their follow-up and to monitor the achievement of those commitments and undertakings;

56. *Invites* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session a comprehensive study on the impact of the converging world crises on social development, in particular for the achievement of poverty eradication, full and productive employment and decent work for all, and social integration;

57. *Invites* the Commission for Social Development to emphasize in its review of the implementation of the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the Programme of Action the increased exchange of national, regional and international experiences, the focused and interactive dialogues among experts and practitioners and the sharing of best practices and lessons learned, and to address, inter alia, the potential impact of the ongoing world financial and economic crisis and the world food and energy crises on social development goals;

58. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the sub-item entitled "Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly", and requests the Secretary-General to submit a report on the question to the Assembly at that session.

RESOLUTION 64/136

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/432, para. 40)[76]

64/136. Cooperatives in social development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 47/90 of 16 December 1992, 49/155 of 23 December 1994, 51/58 of 12 December 1996, 54/123 of 17 December 1999, 56/114 of 19 December 2001, 58/131 of 22 December 2003, 60/132 of 16 December 2005 and 62/128 of 18 December 2007 concerning cooperatives in social development,

Recognizing that cooperatives, in their various forms, promote the fullest possible participation in the economic and social development of all people, including women, youth, older persons, persons with disabilities and indigenous peoples, are becoming a major factor of economic and social development and contribute to the eradication of poverty,

Recognizing also the important contribution and potential of all forms of cooperatives to the follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development, the Fourth World Conference on Women and the second United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), including their five-year reviews, the World Food Summit, the Second World Assembly on Ageing, the International Conference on Financing for Development, the World Summit on Sustainable Development and the 2005 World Summit,

Noting with appreciation the potential role of cooperative development in the improvement of the social and economic conditions of the indigenous peoples and rural communities,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67 of 25 July 1980 on international years and anniversaries,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[77]

2. *Proclaims* the year 2012 the International Year of Cooperatives;

3. *Encourages* all Member States, as well as the United Nations and all other relevant stakeholders, to take advantage of the International Year of Cooperatives as a way of promoting cooperatives and raising awareness of their contribution to social and economic development;

4. *Draws the attention* of Member States to the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General for further action to promote the growth of cooperatives as business and social enterprises that can contribute to sustainable development, eradication of poverty, and livelihoods in various economic sectors in urban and rural areas and provide support for the creation of cooperatives in new and emerging areas;

5. *Encourages* Governments to keep under review, as appropriate, the legal and administrative provisions governing the activities of cooperatives in order to enhance the growth and sustainability of cooperatives in a rapidly changing socio-economic environment by, inter alia, providing a level playing field for cooperatives vis-à-vis other business and social enterprises, including appropriate tax incentives and access to financial services and markets;

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[75] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2005, Supplement No. 6* (E/2005/26), chap. I, sect. A; see also Economic and Social Council decision 2005/234.

[76] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Honduras, Jamaica, Lebanon, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Mexico, Mongolia, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Panama, Philippines, Saint Lucia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Zimbabwe.

[77] A/64/132 and Corr.1.

6. *Urges* Governments, relevant international organizations and the specialized agencies, in collaboration with national and international cooperative organizations, to give due consideration to the role and contribution of cooperatives in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit for Social Development, the Fourth World Conference on Women and the second United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), including their five-year reviews, the World Food Summit, the Second World Assembly on Ageing, the International Conference on Financing for Development, the World Summit on Sustainable Development and the 2005 World Summit by, inter alia:

(*a*) Utilizing and developing fully the potential and contribution of cooperatives for the attainment of social development goals, in particular the eradication of poverty, the generation of full and productive employment and the enhancement of social integration;

(*b*) Encouraging and facilitating the establishment and development of cooperatives, including taking measures aimed at enabling people living in poverty or belonging to vulnerable groups, including women, youth, persons with disabilities, older persons and indigenous peoples, to fully participate, on a voluntary basis, in cooperatives and to address their social service needs;

(*c*) Taking appropriate measures aimed at creating a supportive and enabling environment for the development of cooperatives by, inter alia, developing an effective partnership between Governments and the cooperative movement through joint consultative councils and/or advisory bodies and by promoting and implementing better legislation, research, sharing of good practices, training, technical assistance and capacity-building of cooperatives, especially in the fields of management, auditing and marketing skills;

(*d*) Raising public awareness of the contribution of cooperatives to employment generation and to socio-economic development, promoting comprehensive research and statistical data-gathering on the activities, employment and overall socio-economic impact of cooperatives at the national and international levels and promoting sound national policy formulation by harmonizing statistical methodologies;

7. *Invites* Governments, in collaboration with the cooperative movement, to develop programmes aimed at enhancing capacity-building of cooperatives, including by strengthening the organizational, management and financial skills of their members, and to introduce and support programmes to improve the access of cooperatives to new technologies;

8. *Invites* Governments and international organizations, in collaboration with cooperatives and cooperative organizations, to promote, as appropriate, the growth of agricultural cooperatives through easy access to affordable finance, adoption of sustainable production techniques, investments in rural infrastructure and irrigation, strengthened marketing mechanisms and support for the participation of women in economic activities;

9. *Also invites* Governments and international organizations, in collaboration with cooperatives and cooperative organizations, to promote, as appropriate, the growth of financial cooperatives to meet the goal of inclusive finance by providing easy access to affordable financial services for all;

10. *Invites* Governments, relevant international organizations, the specialized agencies and local, national and international cooperative organizations to continue to observe the International Day of Cooperatives annually, on the first Saturday of July, as proclaimed by the General Assembly in its resolution 47/90;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in cooperation with the relevant United Nations and other international organizations and national, regional and international cooperative organizations, to continue rendering support to Member States, as appropriate, in their efforts to create a supportive environment for the development of cooperatives, providing assistance for human resources development, technical advice and training and promoting an exchange of experience and best practices through, inter alia, conferences, workshops and seminars at the national and regional levels;

12. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, including a proposal on activities to be undertaken during the International Year of Cooperatives within existing resources.

RESOLUTION 64/137

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/433, para. 30)[78]

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[78] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay and Zambia.

64/137. Intensification of efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 61/143 of 19 December 2006, 62/133 of 18 December 2007 and 63/155 of 18 December 2008, and all its previous resolutions on the elimination of violence against women,

Reaffirming the strong support expressed in its resolution 63/311 of 14 September 2009 for the consolidation of the Office of the Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women, the Division for the Advancement of Women, the United Nations Development Fund for Women and the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women into a composite entity, taking into account the existing mandates, which would be led by an Under-Secretary-General,

Reaffirming also the obligation of all States to promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms, and reaffirming further that discrimination on the basis of sex is contrary to the Charter of the United Nations, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[79] and other international human rights instruments, and that its elimination is an integral part of efforts towards the elimination of all forms of violence against women,

Reaffirming further the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women,[80] the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action,[81] the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century",[82] and the declaration adopted at the forty-ninth session of the Commission on the Status of Women,[83]

Reaffirming the international commitments in the field of social development and to gender equality and the advancement of women made at the World Conference on Human Rights, the International Conference on Population and Development, the World Summit for Social Development and the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, as well as those made in the United Nations Millennium Declaration[84] and at the 2005 World Summit,[85]

Recalling Security Council resolutions 1325 (2000) of 31 October 2000 and 1820 (2008) of 19 June 2008 on women and peace and security, and welcoming the adoption of Council resolution 1882 (2009) of 4 August 2009 on children and armed conflict and Council resolutions 1888 (2009) of 30 September 2009 and 1889 (2009) of 5 October 2009 on women and peace and security,

Welcoming Human Rights Council resolution 11/2 of 17 June 2009,[86]

Recognizing that women's poverty and lack of empowerment, as well as their marginalization resulting from their exclusion from social policies and from the benefits of sustainable development, can place them at increased risk of violence, and that violence against women impedes the social and economic development of communities and States, as well as the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Deeply concerned about the pervasiveness of violence against women and girls in all its different forms and manifestations worldwide, and reiterating the need to intensify efforts to prevent and eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls throughout the world,

Stressing that States have the obligation to promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, including women and girls, and must exercise due diligence to prevent and investigate acts of violence against women and girls and punish the perpetrators, to eliminate impunity and to provide protection to the victims, and that failure to do so violates and impairs or nullifies the enjoyment of their human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Expressing its appreciation for the high number of activities undertaken by the United Nations bodies, entities, funds and programmes and the specialized agencies, including by the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on violence against women, its causes and consequences, to eliminate all forms of violence against women, and welcoming the recent appointment of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on violence against children,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General, submitted pursuant to General Assembly resolution 63/155;[87]

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[79] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

[80] See resolution 48/104.

[81] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[82] Resolution S-23/2, annex, and resolution S-23/3, annex.

[83] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2005, Supplement No. 7* and corrigendum (E/2005/27 and Corr.1), chap. I, sect. A; see also Economic and Social Council decision 2005/232.

[84] See resolution 55/2.

[85] See resolution 60/1.

[86] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/64/53), chap. III, sect. A.

[87] A/64/151.

2. *Calls upon* the international community, including the United Nations system and, as appropriate, regional and subregional organizations, to support national efforts to promote the empowerment of women and gender equality in order to enhance national efforts to eliminate violence against women and girls, including, upon request, in the development and implementation of national action plans on the elimination of violence against women and girls, through, inter alia, official development assistance and other appropriate assistance, such as facilitating the sharing of guidelines, methodologies and best practices, and taking into account national priorities;

3. *Calls upon* all United Nations bodies, entities, funds and programmes and the specialized agencies and invites the Bretton Woods institutions to intensify their efforts at all levels to eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls and to better coordinate their work, inter alia, through the Task Force on Violence against Women of the Inter-Agency Network on Women and Gender Equality, and looks forward to the results of the ongoing work of the Task Force on composing a manual on joint programming, with a view to increasing effective support for national efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women;

4. *Expresses its appreciation* for the progress achieved in the Secretary-General's 2008–2015 campaign "UNiTE to End Violence against Women", through the development of a framework for action outlining five key outcomes to be achieved by 2015, supported, inter alia, by the United Nations Development Fund for Women social mobilization and advocacy platform "Say NO to violence against women", the United Nations inter-agency initiative "Stop Rape Now: United Nations Action against Sexual Violence in Conflict" and the regional components of the campaign, stresses the need to accelerate implementation of concrete follow-up activities by the United Nations system to end all forms of violence against women, in close consultation with existing system-wide activities on violence against women, requests the Secretary-General to report on the basis of the results of his campaign, and encourages Member States to join forces in addressing the global pandemic of all forms of violence against women;

5. *Calls upon* the inter-agency Programme Appraisal Committee of the United Nations Trust Fund in Support of Actions to Eliminate Violence against Women, in consultation with the Inter-Agency Network on Women and Gender Equality, to include in its next strategy for the Trust Fund ways and means to further enhance its effectiveness as a system-wide funding mechanism for preventing and redressing all forms of violence against women and girls and to give due consideration, inter alia, to the findings and recommendations of the external evaluation of the Trust Fund once finalized;

6. *Notes with concern* the growing gap between available funding in the United Nations Trust Fund in Support of Actions to Eliminate Violence against Women and the funds required to meet the increasing demand, and urges States and other stakeholders, where possible, to significantly increase the voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund in order to meet th annual target of 100 million United States dollars by 2015 as s by the Secretary-General's campaign "UNiTE to End Violenc against Women", while expressing its appreciation for th contributions already made by States, the private sector an other donors to the Trust Fund;

7. *Stresses* that, within the United Nations syste adequate resources should be assigned to those bodie specialized agencies, funds and programmes responsible for th promotion of gender equality and women's rights and to effor throughout the United Nations system to eliminate violenc against women and girls, calls upon the United Nations syste to make the necessary support and resources available in orde to allow the Task Force on Violence against Women undertake a resource flow analysis to assess the resource available for this work and elaborate recommendations for the most effective and efficient use, and also calls upon the Unite Nations system to respond swiftly to those recommendatio once they have been issued;

8. *Welcomes* the establishment of the Secretary-General database on violence against women,[88] expresses its appreciatio to all the States that have provided the database wit information regarding, inter alia, their national policies and leg frameworks aimed at eliminating violence against women an supporting victims of such violence, strongly encourages a States to regularly provide updated information for the databas and calls upon all relevant entities of the United Nations syste to continue to support States, at their request, in the compilatio and regular updating of pertinent information and to rais awareness of the database among all relevant stakeholder including civil society;

9. *Also welcomes* the adoption of an interim set indicators to measure violence against women[89] by the Statistica Commission at its fortieth session,[90] and looks forward to th results of the ongoing work of the Commission on this topic;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to present an ora report to the Commission on the Status of Women at i fifty-fourth session, and thereafter to the General Assembly its sixty-fifth session, with information provided by the Unite Nations bodies, funds and programmes and the specialize agencies, on recent follow-up activities to implement resolutio 63/155 and the present resolution, including on the Unite Nations Trust Fund in Support of Actions to Eliminate Violenc against Women, and urges United Nations bodies, entitie funds and programmes and the specialized agencies contribute promptly to that report.

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[88] Available from www.un.org/esa/vawdatabase.

[89] See E/CN.3/2009/13, para. 28.

[90] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 200 Supplement No. 4* (E/2009/24), chap. I, sect. B, decision 40/110.

RESOLUTION 64/138

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/433, para. 30)[91]

64/138. Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 62/218 of 22 December 2007 and its previous resolutions on the elimination of discrimination against women,

Bearing in mind that one of the purposes of the United Nations, as stated in Articles 1 and 55 of the Charter, is to promote universal respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction of any kind, including distinction as to sex,

Reiterating the need to intensify efforts to eliminate all forms of discrimination against women throughout the world,

Affirming that women and men should participate equally in social, economic and political development, should contribute equally to such development and should share equally in improved conditions of life,

Recalling the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[92] in which the Conference reaffirmed that the human rights of women and the girl child were an inalienable, integral and indivisible part of universal human rights,

Acknowledging the need for a comprehensive and integrated approach to the promotion and protection of the human rights of women, which includes the integration of the human rights of women into the mainstream of United Nations activities system-wide,

Reaffirming the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action[93] and the outcome documents of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century",[94] in particular those paragraphs concerning the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[95] and the Optional Protocol thereto,[96]

Welcoming the declaration of the Commission on the Status of Women on the occasion of the tenth anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women,[97] in which the Commission recognized that the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the fulfilment of the obligations under the Convention are mutually reinforcing in respect of achieving gender equality and the empowerment of women,

Welcoming also the decision of the Commission to commemorate the fifteenth anniversary of the adoption of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action in conjunction with the fifty-fourth session of the Commission, to be held from 1 to 12 March 2010,[98]

Recalling that, in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[99] Heads of State and Government resolved to implement the Convention, and recalling also that the 2005 World Summit Outcome[100] reaffirmed that gender equality and the promotion and protection of the full enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all are essential to advance development and peace and security,

Recognizing that the equal enjoyment by women of all human rights and fundamental freedoms will promote the realization of the rights of the child, bearing in mind the special needs of girls, and acknowledging the mutual reinforcement of the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Convention on the Rights of the Child[101] and the Optional Protocols thereto,[102]

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[91] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Zambia.

[92] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[93] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[94] Resolution S-23/2, annex, and resolution S-23/3, annex.

[95] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

[96] Ibid., vol. 2131, No. 20378.

[97] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2005, Supplement No. 7* and corrigendum (E/2005/27 and Corr.1), chap. I, sect. A; see also Economic and Social Council decision 2005/232.

[98] Ibid., *2009, Supplement No. 7* (E/2009/27), chap. I, sect. E, resolution 53/1, para. 3.

[99] See resolution 55/2.

[100] See resolution 60/1.

Noting that 18 December 2009 marks the thirtieth anniversary of the adoption by the General Assembly of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,

Noting also that 6 October 2009 marked the tenth anniversary of the adoption by the General Assembly of the Optional Protocol to the Convention,

Bearing in mind the recommendation of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women that national reports should contain information on the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action, in accordance with paragraph 323 of the Platform,

Having considered the reports of the Committee on its fortieth and forty-first[103] and forty-second and forty-third[104] sessions,

Noting with appreciation the elaboration and adoption by the Committee at its forty-second session of general recommendation No. 26, on women migrant workers,[105]

Expressing deep concern at the great number of reports that are still overdue, in particular initial reports, which constitutes an obstacle to the full implementation of the Convention,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General on the status of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women;[106]

2. *Also welcomes* the growing number of States parties to the Convention,[95] which now stands at one hundred and eighty-six, while expressing disappointment that universal ratification of the Convention was not achieved by 2000, and urges all States that have not yet ratified or acceded to the Convention to do so;

3. *Further welcomes* the growing number of States parties to the Optional Protocol to the Convention,[96] which now stands at ninety-nine, and urges other States parties to the Convention to consider signing and ratifying or acceding to the Optional Protocol;

4. *Urges* States parties to comply fully with their obligations under the Convention and the Optional Protocol thereto and to take into consideration the concluding observations as well as the general recommendations of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women;

5. *Encourages* all relevant entities of the United Nations system, within their mandates, as well as Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, in particular women's organizations, as appropriate, to strengthen assistance to States parties, upon their request, in implementing the Convention;

6. *Notes* that some States parties have modified their reservations, expresses satisfaction that some reservations have been withdrawn, and urges States parties to limit the extent of any reservations that they lodge to the Convention, to formulate any such reservations as precisely and as narrowly as possible, to ensure that no reservations are incompatible with the object and purpose of the Convention, to review their reservations regularly with a view to withdrawing them and to withdraw reservations that are contrary to the object and purpose of the Convention;

7. *Welcomes* the adoption by the Committee of Convention-specific reporting guidelines,[107] which must be applied in conjunction with the harmonized reporting guidelines on a common core document;[108]

8. *Recalls* the great number of overdue reports, in particular initial reports, and urges States parties to the Convention to make every possible effort to submit their reports on the implementation of the Convention in a timely manner, in accordance with article 18 thereof;

9. *Also recalls* its resolution 50/202 of 22 December 1995, in which it took note with approval of the amendment to article 20, paragraph 1, of the Convention, which has yet to enter into force, and urges States parties to the Convention that have not yet done so to accept the amendment;

10. *Strongly urges* States parties to the Convention to take appropriate measures so that acceptance of the amendment to article 20, paragraph 1, of the Convention by a two-thirds majority of States parties can be reached as soon as possible and the amendment can enter into force;

11. *Expresses its appreciation* for the efforts made by the Committee to improve the efficiency of its working methods, and welcomes the decision of the Committee to introduce a procedure to enhance the follow-up of its recommendations;

12. *Welcomes* the gradual alleviation of the backlog of reports awaiting consideration by the Committee;

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[101] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[102] Ibid., vol.. 2171 and 2173, No. 27531.

[103] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-third Session, Supplement No. 38* (A/63/38).

[104] Ibid., *Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 38* (A/64/38).

[105] Ibid., part one, annex I, decision 42/I.

[106] A/64/342.

[107] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-third Session, Supplement No. 38* (A/63/38), part one, annex I, decision 40/I.

[108] See HRI/GEN/2/Rev.6, chap. I.

13. *Continues to encourage* the Secretariat to extend further technical assistance to States parties, upon their request, to strengthen their capacity in the preparation of reports, in particular initial reports, and urges Governments to contribute to those efforts;

14. *Invites* States parties to make use of the technical assistance provided by the Secretariat to facilitate the preparation of reports, in particular initial reports;

15. *Encourages* the continued participation of members of the Committee in inter-committee meetings and meetings of persons chairing the human rights treaty bodies, including those on methods of work relating to the State reporting system;

16. *Encourages* the Committee, within its mandate, to continue to contribute to the efforts to strengthen cooperation and coordination between the treaty bodies, and welcomes as a positive example the joint working group of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women and the Committee on the Rights of the Child, and in this regard invites the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women to consider other informal cooperative initiatives maximizing existing resources;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 54/4 of 6 October 1999, to provide the resources, including staff and facilities, necessary for the effective functioning of the Committee within its full mandate, including as set out in the Optional Protocol to the Convention;

18. *Urges* Governments, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to disseminate the Convention and the Optional Protocol thereto;

19. *Encourages* States parties to disseminate the concluding observations adopted in relation to the consideration of their reports, as well as the general recommendations of the Committee;

20. *Encourages* States parties and all relevant entities of the United Nations system to continue to build women's knowledge and understanding of and capacity to utilize human rights instruments, in particular the Convention and the Optional Protocol thereto;

21. *Urges* the specialized agencies, at the invitation of the Committee, to submit reports on the implementation of the Convention in areas falling within the scope of their activities;

22. *Welcomes* the contribution of non-governmental organizations, and national human rights institutions, where they exist, to the work of the Committee;

23. *Invites* the Chair of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women to address and to engage in an interactive dialogue with the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth and sixty-sixth sessions under the item on the advancement of women;

24. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session a report on the status of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 64/139

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/433, para. 30)[109]

64/139. Violence against women migrant workers

The General Assembly,

Recalling all of its previous resolutions on violence against women migrant workers and those adopted by the Commission on the Status of Women, the Commission on Human Rights and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, and the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women,[110]

Reaffirming the provisions concerning women migrant workers contained in the outcome documents of the World Conference on Human Rights,[111] the International Conference on Population and Development,[112] the Fourth World Conference on Women[113] and the World Summit for Social Development[114] and their reviews,

Noting with appreciation the various activities initiated by entities of the United Nations system, such as the Regional Programme on Empowering Women Migrant Workers in Asia of the United Nations Development Fund for Women, the high-level panel discussion on the gender dimensions of international migration held by the Commission on the Status of Women at its fiftieth session, the discussions held by the Commission at its fifty-third session, during which it recognized the particular situation of women migrant domestic workers of all ages, and the general discussion on migrant domestic workers held by the Committee on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families at its eleventh session, and noting the contribution of the International Labour Organization through the development of the Multilateral Framework on Labour Migration, as well as other activities through which the plight of women migrant workers continues to be assessed and alleviated,

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[109] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Angola, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Burundi, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Jamaica, Kenya, Mali, Mexico, Mozambique, Namibia, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Rwanda, Senegal, Sri Lanka, Timor-Leste, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

[110] See resolution 48/104.

[111] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[112] *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5–13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[113] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[114] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6–12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

Recalling the discussions during the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development, held on 14 and 15 September 2006, which recognized, inter alia, the need for special protection for migrant women,

Taking note with appreciation of the United Nations Development Programme *Human Development Report 2009: Overcoming Barriers – Human Mobility and Development*,[115] which discussed, inter alia, the need to protect women migrant workers from abuse, exploitation and violence,

Noting the decision of the Governing Body of the International Labour Office to include discussion of the issue of decent work for domestic workers in the agenda for the ninety-ninth session of the International Labour Conference in June 2010,

Recognizing the increasing participation of women in international migration, driven in large part by socio-economic factors, and that this feminization of migration requires greater gender sensitivity in all policies and efforts related to the subject of international migration,

Stressing the shared responsibility of all stakeholders, in particular countries of origin, transit and destination, relevant regional and international organizations, the private sector and civil society, in promoting an environment that prevents and addresses violence against women migrant workers, and in this regard recognizing the importance of joint and collaborative approaches and strategies at the national, bilateral, regional and international levels,

Recognizing that women migrant workers are important contributors to social and economic development, and underlining the value and dignity of their labour, including the labour of domestic workers,

Acknowledging the contribution that women migrant workers make to development through the economic benefits that accrue to both the country of origin and the country of destination,

Recognizing the particular vulnerability of women and their children at all stages of the migration process, extending from the moment of deciding to migrate, and including transit, engagement in formal and informal employment, and integration into the host society, as well as during their return to their countries of origin,

Expressing deep concern at the continuing reports of grave abuses and violence committed against migrant women and girls, including gender-based violence, in particular sexual violence, trafficking, domestic and family violence, racist and xenophobic acts, abusive labour practices and exploitative conditions of work,

Recognizing that the intersection of, inter alia, gender, age, class and ethnic discrimination and stereotypes can compound the discrimination faced by women migrant workers,

Reaffirming the commitment to protect and promote the human rights of all women, including, without discrimination, indigenous women who migrate for work, and in this regard noting the attention paid in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples[116] to the elimination of all forms of violence and discrimination against indigenous women, as appropriate,

Concerned that many migrant women who are employed in the informal economy and in less skilled work are especially vulnerable to abuse and exploitation, underlining in this regard the obligation of States to protect the human rights of migrants so as to prevent abuse and exploitation, and observing with concern that many women migrant workers take on jobs for which they may be overqualified and in which, at the same time, they may be more vulnerable because of poor pay and inadequate social protection,

Emphasizing the need for objective, comprehensive and broad-based information, including sex- and age-disaggregated data and statistics, and gender-sensitive indicators for research and analysis, and a wide exchange of experience and lessons learned by individual Member States and civil society in the formulation of policies and concrete strategies to address the problem of violence against women migrant workers,

Realizing that the movement of a significant number of women migrant workers may be facilitated and made possible by means of fraudulent or irregular documentation and sham marriages with the object of migration, that this may be facilitated through, inter alia, the Internet, and that those women migrant workers are more vulnerable to abuse and exploitation,

Recognizing the importance of exploring the link between migration and trafficking in order to further efforts towards protecting women migrant workers from violence, discrimination, exploitation and abuse,

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[115] United Nations publication, Sales No. E.09.III.B.1.

[116] Resolution 61/295, annex.

Encouraged by some measures adopted by some countries of destination to alleviate the plight of women migrant workers residing in their areas of jurisdiction, such as the establishment of protection mechanisms for migrant workers, facilitating their access to mechanisms for reporting complaints, or providing assistance during legal proceedings,

Underlining the important role of relevant United Nations treaty bodies in monitoring the implementation of human rights conventions and the relevant special procedures, within their respective mandates, in addressing the problem of violence against women migrant workers and in protecting and promoting their human rights and welfare,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General;[117]

2. *Encourages* Member States to consider signing and ratifying or acceding to relevant International Labour Organization conventions and to consider signing and ratifying or acceding to the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families,[118] the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[119] and the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[120] as well as all human rights treaties that contribute to the protection of the rights of women migrant workers;

3. *Takes note* of the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on violence against women, its causes and consequences entitled "Political economy of women's human rights", submitted to the Council at its eleventh session,[121] in particular her elaboration in that report of the current issues of the exploitation and violence that women migrants face in the context of the current global economic trends and crises;

4. *Encourages* all United Nations special rapporteurs on human rights whose mandates touch on the issues of violence against women migrant workers to improve the collection of information on and analysis of the current challenges facing women migrant workers, and also encourages Governments to cooperate with the special rapporteurs in this regard;

5. *Calls upon* all Governments to incorporate a human rights and gender perspective in legislation and policies on international migration and on labour and employment, consistent with their human rights obligations and commitments under human rights instruments, for the prevention of and protection of migrant women against violence and discrimination, exploitation and abuse, and to take effective measures to ensure that such migration and labour policies do not reinforce discrimination and bias against women;

6. *Calls upon* Governments to adopt or strengthen measures to protect the human rights of women migrant workers, regardless of their immigration status, including in policies that regulate the recruitment and deployment of women migrant workers, and to consider expanding dialogue among States on devising innovative methods to promote legal channels of migration, inter alia, in order to deter illegal migration;

7. *Urges* Governments to enhance bilateral, regional, interregional and international cooperation to address violence against women migrant workers, fully respecting international law, including international human rights law, as well as to strengthen efforts in reducing the vulnerability of women migrant workers, including by fostering sustainable development alternatives to migration in countries of origin;

8. *Also urges* Governments to take into account the best interests of the child, by adopting or strengthening measures to promote and protect the human rights of migrant girls, including unaccompanied girls, regardless of their immigration status, so as to prevent labour and economic exploitation, discrimination, sexual harassment, violence and sexual abuse in the workplace, including in domestic work;

9. *Further urges* Governments, in cooperation with international organizations, civil society, including non-governmental organizations, and the private sector, to strengthen the focus on and funding support for the prevention of violence against women migrant workers, in particular by promoting the access of women to meaningful and gender-sensitive information and education on, inter alia, the costs and benefits of migration, rights and benefits to which they are entitled in the countries of origin and employment, overall conditions in countries of employment and procedures for legal migration, as well as to ensure that laws and policies governing recruiters, employers and intermediaries promote adherence to and respect for the human rights of migrant workers, particularly women;

10. *Encourages* all States to remove obstacles that may prevent the transparent, safe, unrestricted and expeditious transfer of remittances of migrants to their countries of origin or to any other countries, in conformity with applicable legislation, and to consider, as appropriate, measures to solve other problems that may impede women migrant workers' access to and management of their economic resources;

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[117] A/64/152.

[118] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2220, No. 39481.

[119] Ibid., vol. 2237, No. 39574.

[120] Ibid., vol. 2241, No. 39574.

[121] A/HRC/11/6.

11. *Calls upon* Governments to recognize the right of women migrant workers, regardless of immigration status, to have access to emergency health care and in this regard to ensure that women migrant workers are not discriminated against on the grounds of pregnancy and childbirth;

12. *Urges* States that have not yet done so to adopt and implement legislation and policies that protect all women migrant domestic workers, and to grant women migrant workers in domestic service access to transparent mechanisms for bringing complaints against employers, while stressing that such instruments should not punish women migrant workers, and calls upon States to promptly investigate and punish all violations;

13. *Calls upon* Governments, in cooperation with international organizations, non-governmental organizations, the private sector and other stakeholders, to provide women migrant workers who are victims of violence with the full range of immediate assistance and protection, such as access to counselling, legal and consular assistance and temporary shelter, as well as mechanisms to allow the views and concerns of victims to be presented and considered at appropriate stages of proceedings, including other measures that will allow victims to be present during the judicial process, to the extent possible, as well as to establish reintegration and rehabilitation schemes for returning women migrant workers;

14. *Also calls upon* Governments, in particular those of the countries of origin and destination, to put in place penal and criminal sanctions in order to punish perpetrators of violence against women migrant workers and intermediaries, and redress and justice mechanisms that victims can access effectively, as well as to ensure that migrant women victims of violence do not suffer from re-victimization, including by authorities;

15. *Urges* all States to adopt effective measures to put an end to the arbitrary arrest and detention of women migrant workers and to take action to prevent and punish any form of illegal deprivation of the liberty of women migrant workers by individuals or groups;

16. *Encourages* Governments to formulate and implement training programmes for their law enforcers, immigration officers and border officials, diplomatic and consular officials, prosecutors and service providers, with a view to sensitizing those public-sector workers to the issue of violence against women migrant workers and imparting to them the necessary skills and attitude to ensure the delivery of proper, professional and gender-sensitive interventions;

17. *Calls upon* States, in accordance with the provisions of article 36 of the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations,[122] to ensure that, if a woman migrant worker is arrested or committed to prison or custody pending trial, or is detained in any other manner, competent authorities respect her freedom to communicate with and have access to the consular officials of the country of her nationality, and in this regard to inform without delay, if that woman migrant worker so requests, the consular post of her State of nationality;

18. *Invites* Governments, the United Nations system and other concerned intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to cooperate towards a better understanding of the issues concerning women and international migration, and to improve the collection, dissemination and analysis of sex- and age-disaggregated data and information in order to assist in the formulation of migration and labour policies that are, inter alia, gender-sensitive and that protect human rights, as well as to aid in policy assessment;

19. *Encourages* concerned Governments, in particular those of the countries of origin, transit and destination, to avail themselves of the expertise of the United Nations, including the Statistics Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, the United Nations Development Fund for Women and the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, to develop appropriate national data-collection and analysis methodologies that will generate comparable data and tracking and reporting systems on violence against women migrant workers;

20. *Notes with appreciation* the elaboration and adoption by the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women of general recommendation No. 26, on women migrant workers,[123] and calls upon States parties to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women [124] to consider the recommendation;

21. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session on the problem of violence against women migrant workers and on the implementation of the present resolution, taking into account updated information from the organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the International Labour Organization, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Development Fund for Women, the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, as well as the reports of special rapporteurs that refer to the situation of women migrant workers and other relevant sources, such as the International Organization for Migration, including non-governmental organizations.

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[122] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 596, No. 8638.

[123] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 38* (A/64/38), part one, annex I, decision 42/I.

[124] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

RESOLUTION 64/140

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/433, para. 30)[125]

64/140. Improvement of the situation of women in rural areas

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 56/129 of 19 December 2001, 58/146 of 22 December 2003, 60/138 of 16 December 2005 and 62/136 of 18 December 2007,

Recalling also the importance attached to the problems of rural women in the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women,[126] the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women[127] and the outcome documents of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century",[128] including the review and appraisal of the implementation of the outcomes, and in the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[129]

Recalling further the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[130] in which Member States resolved, inter alia, to promote gender equality and the empowerment of women as effective ways to combat poverty, hunger and disease and to stimulate development that is truly sustainable, and the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[131] in which they also resolved to promote gender equality and eliminate pervasive gender discrimination by taking all the necessary resolute action,

Welcoming the declaration adopted by the Commission on the Status of Women at its forty-ninth session in the context of the review and appraisal of the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly,[132]

Noting the attention paid to the improvement of the situation of indigenous women in rural areas in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples,[133]

Recognizing the work of relevant United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, especially the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, in promoting education for all, giving particular attention to girls and women in rural areas,

Welcoming the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,[134] as well as the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),[135] in which Governments were called upon to mainstream the gender perspective into development at all levels and in all sectors, and recalling the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus, held in Doha from 29 November to 2 December 2008,

Welcoming also the ministerial declaration of the high-level segment of the substantive session of 2003 of the Economic and Social Council, adopted on 2 July 2003,[136] which stressed the need for rural development to become an integral part of national and international development policies and of activities and programmes of the United Nations system, and called for an enhanced role for rural women at all levels of rural development, including decision-making,

Recalling the World Summit on the Information Society, held in Geneva in 2003 and Tunis in 2005, as well as the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society, adopted by the World

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[125] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bangladesh, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Iraq, Israel, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Turkey, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

[126] *Report of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Nairobi, 15–26 July 1985* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.85.IV.10), chap. I, sect. A.

[127] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[128] Resolution S-23/2, annex, and resolution S-23/3, annex.

[129] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

[130] See resolution 55/2.

[131] See resolution 60/1.

[132] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2005, Supplement No. 7* and corrigendum (E/2005/27 and Corr.1), chap. I, sect. A; see also Economic and Social Council decision 2005/232.

[133] Resolution 61/295, annex.

[134] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[135] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex, and resolution 2, annex.

[136] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/58/3/Rev.1), chap. III, para. 35.

Summit in 2005,[137] which reaffirmed the commitment to building capacity in information and communications technology for all and confidence in the use of information and communications technology by all, including women, indigenous peoples and remote and rural communities,

Recognizing the critical role and contribution of rural women, including indigenous women, in enhancing agricultural and rural development, improving food security and eradicating rural poverty,

Reiterating that eradicating poverty is the greatest global challenge facing the world today, and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, in particular for developing countries, while recognizing that rural areas of developing countries continue to be home to the vast majority of the world's poor people,

Recognizing the contributions of older rural women to the family and the community, especially in cases where they are left behind by migrating adults or as a result of other socio-economic factors to assume childcare, household and agricultural responsibility,

Reiterating the call for fair globalization and the need to translate growth into eradication of poverty, including for rural women, and in this regard applauding the resolve to make the goals of full and productive employment and decent work for all, including for rural women, a central objective of relevant national and international policies as well as national development strategies, including poverty eradication strategies,

Recognizing the urgent need to take appropriate measures aimed at further improving the situation of women in rural areas,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[138]

2. *Urges* Member States, in collaboration with the organizations of the United Nations and civil society, as appropriate, to continue their efforts to implement the outcome of and to ensure an integrated and coordinated follow-up to the United Nations conferences and summits, including their reviews, and to attach greater importance to the improvement of the situation of rural women, including indigenous women, in their national, regional and global development strategies by, inter alia:

(*a*) Creating an enabling environment for improving the situation of rural women and ensuring systematic attention to their needs, priorities and contributions, including through enhanced cooperation and a gender perspective, and their full participation in the development, implementation and follow-up of macroeconomic policies, including development policies and programmes and poverty eradication strategies, including poverty reduction strategy papers where they exist, based on internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;

(*b*) Pursuing the political and socio-economic empowerment of rural women and supporting their full and equal participation in decision-making at all levels, including through affirmative action, where appropriate, and support for women's organizations, labour unions or other associations and civil society groups promoting rural women's rights;

(*c*) Promoting consultation with and the participation of rural women, including indigenous women and women with disabilities, through their organizations and networks, in the design, development and implementation of gender equality and rural development programmes and strategies;

(*d*) Ensuring that the perspectives of rural women are taken into account and that they participate in the design, implementation, follow-up and evaluation of policies and activities related to emergencies, including natural disasters, humanitarian assistance, peacebuilding and post-conflict reconstruction, and taking appropriate measures to eliminate all forms of discrimination against rural women in this regard;

(*e*) Integrating a gender perspective into the design, implementation, follow-up and evaluation of development policies and programmes, including budget policies, paying increased attention to the needs of rural women so as to ensure that they benefit from policies and programmes adopted in all spheres and that the disproportionate number of rural women living in poverty is reduced;

(*f*) Investing in and strengthening efforts to meet the basic needs of rural women through improved availability, access to and use of critical rural infrastructure, such as energy and transport, capacity-building and human resources development measures and the provision of a safe and reliable water supply and sanitation, nutritional programmes, affordable housing programmes, education and literacy programmes, and health and social support measures, including in the areas of sexual and reproductive health and HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment, care and support services;

(*g*) Strengthening measures, including resource generation, to accelerate progress towards the achievement of millennium development goal 5 on improving maternal health by addressing the specific health needs of rural women and taking concrete measures to enhance and provide access to the highest attainable standards of health for women in rural areas, as well as quality, affordable and universally accessible primary health care and support services, including in such areas of sexual and reproductive health as prenatal and post-natal health care, emergency obstetric care, family planning information and increasing knowledge, awareness and support for the prevention of sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV/AIDS;

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[137] See A/60/687, chap. I, sect. B.

[138] A/64/190.

(h) Designing and implementing national policies that promote and protect the enjoyment by rural women and girls of all human rights and fundamental freedoms and creating an environment that does not tolerate violations of their rights, including domestic violence, sexual violence and all other forms of gender-based violence;

(i) Ensuring that the rights of older women in rural areas are taken into account with regard to their equal access to basic social services, appropriate social protection/social security measures, equal access to and control of economic resources, and empowerment of older women through access to financial and infrastructure services, with special focus on support to older women, including indigenous women, who often have access to few resources and are more vulnerable;

(j) Promoting the rights of women and girls with disabilities in rural areas, including by ensuring access on an equal basis to productive employment and decent work, economic and financial resources and disability-sensitive infrastructure and services, in particular in relation to health and education, as well as by ensuring that their priorities and needs are fully incorporated into policies and programmes, inter alia, through their participation in decision-making processes;

(k) Developing specific assistance programmes and advisory services to promote economic skills of rural women in banking, modern trading and financial procedures and providing microcredit and other financial and business services to a greater number of women in rural areas, in particular female-headed households, for their economic empowerment;

(l) Mobilizing resources, including at the national level and through official development assistance, for increasing women's access to existing savings and credit schemes, as well as targeted programmes that provide women with capital, knowledge and tools that enhance their economic capacities;

(m) Integrating increased employment opportunities for rural women into all international and national development strategies and poverty eradication strategies, including by expanding non-agricultural employment opportunities, improving working conditions and increasing access to productive resources;

(n) Taking steps towards ensuring that women's unpaid work and contributions to on-farm and off-farm production, including income generated in the informal sector, are recognized and supporting remunerative non-agricultural employment of rural women, improving working conditions and increasing access to productive resources;

(o) Promoting programmes to enable rural women and men to reconcile their work and family responsibilities and to encourage men to share, equally with women, household and childcare responsibilities;

(p) Considering the adoption, where appropriate, of national legislation to protect the knowledge, innovations and practices of women in indigenous and local communities relating to traditional medicines, biodiversity and indigenous technologies;

(q) Addressing the lack of timely, reliable and sex-disaggregated data, including by intensifying efforts to include women's unpaid work in official statistics, and developing a systematic and comparative research base on rural women that will inform policy and programme decisions;

(r) Designing, revising and implementing laws to ensure that rural women are accorded full and equal rights to own and lease land and other property, including through the right to inheritance, and undertaking administrative reforms and all necessary measures to give women the same right as men to credit, capital, appropriate technologies and access to markets and information;

(s) Supporting a gender-sensitive education system that considers the specific needs of rural women in order to eliminate gender stereotypes and discriminatory tendencies affecting them;

(t) Developing the capacity of personnel working in the areas of national development strategies, rural development, agricultural development, poverty eradication and implementation of the Millennium Development Goals to identify and address the challenges and constraints facing rural women, including through training programmes and the development and dissemination of methodologies and tools, while acknowledging the technical assistance of relevant United Nations organizations;

3. *Strongly encourages* Member States, United Nations entities and all other relevant stakeholders to take measures to identify and address any negative impact of the current global crises on women in rural areas, including legislation, policies and programmes that strengthen gender equality and the empowerment of women;

4. *Invites* the Commission on the Status of Women to continue to pay due attention to the situation of rural women in the consideration of its priority themes;

5. *Requests* the relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, in particular those dealing with issues of development, to address and support the empowerment of rural women and their specific needs in their programmes and strategies;

6. *Stresses* the need to identify the best practices for ensuring that rural women have access to and full participation in the area of information and communications technology, to address the priorities and needs of rural women and girls as active users of information and to ensure their participation in developing and implementing global, regional and national information and communications technology strategies;

7. *Encourages* Member States, the United Nations and relevant organizations of its system to ensure that the needs of rural women are mainstreamed into the integrated process of

follow-up to the major conferences and summits in the economic and social fields, in particular the Millennium Summit, the World Summit on Sustainable Development, the International Conference on Financing for Development and the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus, the 2005 review and appraisal of the progress achieved in implementing all the commitments made in the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action[127] and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly,[128] and the 2005 World Summit;

8. *Calls upon* Member States to take into consideration the concluding observations and recommendations of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women concerning their reports to the Committee when formulating policies and designing programmes focused on the improvement of the situation of rural women, including those to be developed and implemented in cooperation with relevant international organizations;

9. *Invites* Governments, relevant international organizations and the specialized agencies to continue to observe the International Day of Rural Women annually, on 15 October, as proclaimed in its resolution 62/136;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 64/141

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/433, para. 30)[139]

64/141. Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions on the question, including resolution 63/159 of 18 December 2008,

Deeply convinced that the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action[140] and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century"[141] are important contributions to the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of women, and must be translated into effective action by all States, the United Nations system and other organizations concerned,

Reaffirming the commitments to gender equality and the advancement of women made at the Millennium Summit,[142] the 2005 World Summit[143] and other major United Nations summits, conferences and special sessions, and reaffirming also that their full, effective and accelerated implementation is integral to achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Welcoming progress made towards achieving gender equality, but stressing that challenges and obstacles remain in the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session,

Recognizing that the responsibility for the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session rests primarily at the national level and that strengthened efforts are necessary in this respect, and reiterating that enhanced international cooperation is essential for full, effective and accelerated implementation,

Noting that the Commission on the Status of Women will undertake, at its fifty-fourth session, a review of the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session, emphasizing the sharing of experiences and good practices, with a view to overcoming remaining obstacles and new challenges, including those related to the Millennium Development Goals,

Taking into consideration the theme of the annual ministerial review to be held by the Economic and Social Council in 2010, "Implementing the internationally agreed goals and commitments in regard to gender equality and empowerment of women",

Welcoming the work of the Commission on the Status of Women in reviewing the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, and noting with appreciation all its agreed conclusions, including the latest, on the equal sharing of responsibilities between women and men, including caregiving in the context of HIV/AIDS, adopted by the Commission at its fifty-third session,[144]

Reaffirming that gender mainstreaming is a globally accepted strategy for promoting the empowerment of women and achieving gender equality by transforming structures of inequality, and reaffirming also the commitment to actively promote the mainstreaming of a gender perspective in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies and programmes in all political, economic and social spheres, as well as the commitment to strengthen the capabilities of the United Nations system in the area of gender equality,

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[139] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Chair of the Committee.

[140] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[141] Resolution S-23/2, annex, and resolution S-23/3, annex.

[142] See resolution 55/2.

[143] See resolution 60/1.

[144] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2009, Supplement No. 7* (E/2009/27), chap. I, sect. A, para. 1.

Taking note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General on mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system,[145] and stressing the importance of the continued integration of a gender perspective in the work and activities of the Human Rights Council,

Reaffirming the commitments in regard to gender equality and the empowerment of women in the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development: outcome document of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus,[146]

Bearing in mind the challenges and obstacles to changing discriminatory attitudes and gender stereotypes, and stressing that challenges and obstacles remain in the implementation of international standards and norms to address the inequality between men and women,

Reaffirming the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS[147] and the Political Declaration on HIV/AIDS adopted at the High-level Meeting on HIV/AIDS, held from 31 May to 2 June 2006,[148] which, inter alia, acknowledged the feminization of the pandemic,

Expressing serious concern that the urgent goal of 50/50 gender balance in the United Nations system, especially at senior and policymaking levels, with full respect for the principle of equitable geographical distribution, in conformity with Article 101, paragraph 3, of the Charter of the United Nations, remains unmet, and that the representation of women in the United Nations system has remained almost static, with negligible improvement in some parts of the system, and in some cases has even decreased, as reflected in the report of the Secretary-General on the improvement of the status of women in the United Nations system,[149]

Reaffirming the important role of women in the prevention and resolution of conflicts and in peacebuilding,

Recalling Security Council resolutions 1325 (2000) of 31 October 2000 and 1820 (2008) of 19 June 2008 on women and peace and security, and welcoming the adoption of Council resolution 1882 (2009) of 4 August 2009 on children and armed conflict and Council resolutions 1888 (2009) of 30 September 2009 and 1889 (2009) of 5 October 2009 on women and peace and security,

Welcoming its resolution 63/311 of 14 September 2009, in particular the provisions on strengthening the institutional arrangements for support of gender equality and the empowerment of women, reaffirming its strong support expressed therein for the consolidation of the Office of the Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women, the Division for the Advancement of Women, the United Nations Development Fund for Women and the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women into a composite entity, taking into account the existing mandates, which would be led by an Under-Secretary-General, and looking forward to the full implementation of resolution 63/311,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the measures taken and progress achieved in follow-up to the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly;[150]

2. *Reaffirms* the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action adopted at the Fourth World Conference on Women,[143] the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly,[144] and the declaration adopted on the occasion of the ten-year review and appraisal of the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action at the forty-ninth session of the Commission on the Status of Women,[151] and also reaffirms its commitment to their full, effective and accelerated implementation;

3. *Also reaffirms* the primary and essential role of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, as well as the catalytic role of the Commission on the Status of Women, in promoting gender equality and the empowerment of women based on the full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session, and in promoting and monitoring gender mainstreaming within the United Nations system;

4. *Recognizes* that the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the fulfilment of the obligations of States parties under the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[152] are mutually reinforcing in respect of achieving gender equality and the empowerment of women, and in this regard welcomes

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[145] E/2009/71.

[146] Resolution 63/239, annex.

[147] Resolution S-26/2, annex.

[148] Resolution 60/262, annex.

[149] A/63/364.

[150] A/64/218.

[151] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2005, Supplement No. 7* and corrigendum (E/2005/27 and Corr.1), chap. I, sect. A; see also Economic and Social Council decision 2005/232.

[152] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

the contributions of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women to promoting the implementation of the Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session, and invites States parties to the Convention to include information on measures taken to enhance implementation at the national level in their reports to the Committee under article 18 of the Convention;

5. *Calls upon* States parties to comply fully with their obligations under the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Optional Protocol thereto[153] and to take into consideration the concluding observations as well as the general recommendations of the Committee, urges States parties to consider limiting the extent of any reservations that they lodge to the Convention, to formulate any reservations as precisely and narrowly as possible, and to regularly review such reservations with a view to withdrawing them so as to ensure that no reservation is incompatible with the object and purpose of the Convention, also urges all Member States that have not yet ratified or acceded to the Convention to consider doing so, and calls upon those Member States that have not yet done so to consider signing and ratifying or acceding to the Optional Protocol;

6. *Welcomes* the opportunities provided in intergovernmental bodies in 2010 to accelerate progress in the achievement of gender equality, the empowerment of women and gender balance, including the fifteen-year review of the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the review of the outcome of the twenty-third special session at the fifty-fourth session of the Commission on the Status of Women, the annual ministerial review to be held by the Economic and Social Council on the theme "Implementing the internationally agreed goals and commitments in regard to gender equality and empowerment of women", the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals, and the tenth anniversary of the adoption of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000);

7. *Encourages* Member States, United Nations entities, international and regional organizations and other relevant actors to fully utilize the opportunities provided in intergovernmental bodies in 2010, including intergovernmental consultations, with a view to ensuring prompt progress as set forth in resolution 63/311, including strengthening the institutional arrangements for the support of gender equality and the empowerment of women, so as to accelerate progress in the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of women based on the full and effective implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session;

8. *Underlines* the significance of the fifty-fourth session of the Commission on the Status of Women, at which the Commission will undertake the fifteen-year review of the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the review of the outcome of the twenty-third special session, emphasizing the sharing of experiences and good practices, with a view to overcoming remaining obstacles and new challenges, including those related to the full realization of all Millennium Development Goals, including goal 3;

9. *Encourages* all actors, inter alia, Governments, the United Nations system, other international organizations and civil society, to continue to support the work of the Commission on the Status of Women in fulfilling its central role in the follow-up to and review of the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session, and, as applicable, to carry out its recommendations, and welcomes in this regard the revised programme and methods of work of the Commission adopted at its fifty-third session,[154] which continue to focus attention on the sharing of experiences, lessons learned and good practices in overcoming challenges to full implementation at the national and international levels as well as to the evaluation of progress in the implementation of priority themes;

10. *Encourages* participation at a high political level in the fifty-fourth session of the Commission on the Status of Women and the 2010 annual ministerial review of the Economic and Social Council;

11. *Invites* States and requests relevant bodies of the United Nations system to publicize the forthcoming sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women and the Economic and Social Council, including through consultation with civil society;

12. *Calls upon* Governments and the organs and relevant funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates, and other international and regional organizations, including financial institutions, and all relevant actors of civil society, including non-governmental organizations, to intensify action to achieve the full and effective implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session;

13. *Reaffirms* that States have an obligation to exercise due diligence to prevent violence against women and girls, provide protection to the victims and investigate, prosecute and punish the perpetrators of violence against women and girls, and that failure to do so violates and impairs or nullifies the enjoyment of their human rights and fundamental freedoms, calls upon Governments to elaborate and implement laws and

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[153] Ibid., vol. 2131, No. 20378.

[154] See Economic and Social Council resolution 2009/15.

strategies to eliminate violence against women and girls, encourages and supports men and boys in taking an active part in the prevention and elimination of all forms of violence, encourages increased understanding among men and boys of how violence harms girls, boys, women and men and undermines gender equality, encourages all actors to speak out against any violence against women, and in this regard welcomes the Secretary-General's campaign "UNiTE to End Violence against Women" and the United Nations Development Fund for Women social mobilization and advocacy platform "Say NO to violence against women";

14. *Reiterates its call* to the United Nations system, including the main organs, their main committees and subsidiary bodies, new functions such as the annual ministerial review and the Development Cooperation Forum of the Economic and Social Council, and the funds, programmes and specialized agencies, to increase efforts to fully mainstream a gender perspective into all issues under their consideration and within their mandates, as well as in all United Nations summits, conferences and special sessions and in their follow-up processes, including the fifteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, held in Copenhagen from 7 to 18 December 2009, and to give attention to gender equality and the empowerment of women in preparations for such events, and in this regard looks forward to efficient and effective support for these efforts by the consolidated gender entity upon its establishment;

15. *Requests* that the entities of the United Nations system systematically incorporate the outcomes of the Commission on the Status of Women into their work within their mandates, inter alia, to ensure effective support for the efforts of Member States towards the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of women;

16. *Strongly encourages* Governments to continue to support the role and contribution of civil society, in particular non-governmental organizations and women's organizations, in the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session;

17. *Requests* that reports of the Secretary-General submitted to the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council and their subsidiary bodies systematically address gender perspectives through qualitative gender analysis, sex- and age-disaggregated data and, where available, quantitative data, in particular through concrete conclusions and recommendations for further action on gender equality and the empowerment of women, in order to facilitate gender-sensitive policy development;

18. *Calls upon* all parts of the United Nations system to continue to play an active role in ensuring the full, effective and accelerated implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session, through, inter alia, the maintenance of gender specialists in all entities of the United Nations system, as well as by ensuring that all personnel, especially in the field, receive training and appropriate follow-up, including tools, guidance and support, for accelerated gender mainstreaming, and reaffirms the need to strengthen the capabilities of the United Nations system in the area of gender;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to review and redouble his efforts to make progress towards achieving the goal of 50/50 gender balance at all levels in the Secretariat and throughout the United Nations system, with full respect for the principle of equitable geographical distribution, in conformity with Article 101, paragraph 3, of the Charter of the United Nations, considering, in particular, women from developing and least developed countries, from countries with economies in transition and from unrepresented or largely underrepresented Member States, and to ensure managerial and departmental accountability with respect to gender balance targets, and strongly encourages Member States to identify and regularly submit more women candidates for appointment to positions in the United Nations system, especially at more senior and policymaking levels, including in peacekeeping operations;

20. *Calls upon* the United Nations system to continue its efforts towards achieving the goal of gender balance, including with the active support of gender focal points, and requests the Secretary-General to provide an oral report to the Commission on the Status of Women at its fifty-fourth session, to report to the General Assembly on a biennial basis, beginning at its sixty-fifth session, under the item entitled "Advancement of women", and to include in his report on human resources management information on the status of women in the United Nations system, including on progress made and obstacles encountered in achieving gender balance, recommendations for accelerating progress, and up-to-date statistics, including the number and percentage of women and their functions and nationalities throughout the United Nations system, and information on the responsibility and accountability of the Office of Human Resources Management of the Secretariat and the secretariat of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination for promoting gender balance;

21. *Encourages* increased efforts by Governments and the United Nations system to enhance accountability for the implementation of commitments to gender equality and the empowerment of women at the international, regional and national levels, including by improved monitoring and reporting on progress in relation to policies, strategies, resource allocations and programmes, and by achieving gender balance;

22. *Reaffirms* that Governments bear the primary responsibility for the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of women and that international cooperation has an essential role in assisting developing countries in progressing towards the full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action;

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to report annually to the General Assembly under the item entitled "Advancement of women", as well as to the Commission on the Status of Women and the Economic and Social Council, on the follow-up to and progress made in the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session, with an assessment of progress in gender mainstreaming, including information on key achievements, lessons learned and good practices, and recommendations on further measures to enhance implementation, taking into account the discussions and outcome of the fifty-fourth session of the Commission in respect of the fifteen-year review of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the review of the outcome of the twenty-third special session.

RESOLUTION 64/142

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/434, para. 16)[155]

64/142. Guidelines for the Alternative Care of Children

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[156] and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[157] and celebrating the twentieth anniversary of the Convention in 2009,

Reaffirming also all previous resolutions on the rights of the child of the Human Rights Council, the Commission on Human Rights and the General Assembly, the most recent being Council resolutions 7/29 of 28 March 2008,[158] 9/13 of 24 September 2008[159] and 10/8 of 26 March 2009[160] and Assembly resolution 63/241 of 24 December 2008,

Considering that the Guidelines for the Alternative Care of Children, the text of which is annexed to the present resolution, set out desirable orientations for policy and practice with the intention of enhancing the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and of relevant provisions of other international instruments regarding the protection and well-being of children deprived of parental care or who are at risk of being so,

1. *Welcomes* the Guidelines for the Alternative Care of Children, as contained in the annex to the present resolution, as a set of orientations to help to inform policy and practice;

2. *Encourages* States to take the Guidelines into account and to bring them to the attention of the relevant executive, legislative and judiciary bodies of government, human rights defenders and lawyers, the media and the public in general;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General, within existing resources, to take steps to disseminate the Guidelines in all the official languages of the United Nations, including by transmitting them to all Member States, regional commissions and relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations.

Annex

Guidelines for the Alternative Care of Children

I. Purpose

1. The present Guidelines are intended to enhance the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and of relevant provisions of other international instruments regarding the protection and well-being of children who are deprived of parental care or who are at risk of being so.

2. Against the background of these international instruments and taking account of the developing body of knowledge and experience in this sphere, the Guidelines set out desirable orientations for policy and practice. They are designed for wide dissemination among all sectors directly or indirectly concerned with issues relating to alternative care, and seek in particular:

(*a*) To support efforts to keep children in, or return them to, the care of their family or, failing this, to find another appropriate and permanent solution, including adoption and *kafala* of Islamic law;

(*b*) To ensure that, while such permanent solutions are being sought, or in cases where they are not possible or are not in the best interests of the child, the most suitable forms of alternative care are identified and provided, under conditions that promote the child's full and harmonious development;

(*c*) To assist and encourage Governments to better implement their responsibilities and obligations in these respects, bearing in mind the economic, social and cultural conditions prevailing in each State; and

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[155] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Angola, Argentina, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Finland, Guatemala, Honduras, Italy, Mexico, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Serbia, Seychelles, Slovenia, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

[156] Resolution 217 A (III).

[157] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[158] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-third Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/63/53), chap. II.

[159] Ibid., *Supplement No. 53A* (A/63/53/Add.1), chap. I.

[160] Ibid., *Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/64/53), chap. II, sect. A.

(*d*) To guide policies, decisions and activities of all concerned with social protection and child welfare in both the public and the private sectors, including civil society.

II. General principles and perspectives

A. The child and the family

3. The family being the fundamental group of society and the natural environment for the growth, well-being and protection of children, efforts should primarily be directed to enabling the child to remain in or return to the care of his/her parents, or when appropriate, other close family members. The State should ensure that families have access to forms of support in the caregiving role.

4. Every child and young person should live in a supportive, protective and caring environment that promotes his/her full potential. Children with inadequate or no parental care are at special risk of being denied such a nurturing environment.

5. Where the child's own family is unable, even with appropriate support, to provide adequate care for the child, or abandons or relinquishes the child, the State is responsible for protecting the rights of the child and ensuring appropriate alternative care, with or through competent local authorities and duly authorized civil society organizations. It is the role of the State, through its competent authorities, to ensure the supervision of the safety, well-being and development of any child placed in alternative care and the regular review of the appropriateness of the care arrangement provided.

6. All decisions, initiatives and approaches falling within the scope of the present Guidelines should be made on a case-by-case basis, with a view, notably, to ensuring the child's safety and security, and must be grounded in the best interests and rights of the child concerned, in conformity with the principle of non-discrimination and taking due account of the gender perspective. They should respect fully the child's right to be consulted and to have his/her views duly taken into account in accordance with his/her evolving capacities, and on the basis of his/her access to all necessary information. Every effort should be made to enable such consultation and information provision to be carried out in the child's preferred language.

7. In applying the present Guidelines, determination of the best interests of the child shall be designed to identify courses of action for children deprived of parental care, or at risk of being so, that are best suited to satisfying their needs and rights, taking into account the full and personal development of their rights in their family, social and cultural environment and their status as subjects of rights, both at the time of the determination and in the longer term. The determination process should take account of, inter alia, the right of the child to be heard and to have his/her views taken into account in accordance with his/her age and maturity.

8. States should develop and implement comprehensive child welfare and protection policies within the framework of their overall social and human development policy, with attention to the improvement of existing alternative care provision, reflecting the principles contained in the present Guidelines.

9. As part of efforts to prevent the separation of children from their parents, States should seek to ensure appropriate and culturally sensitive measures:

(*a*) To support family caregiving environments whose capacities are limited by factors such as disability, drug and alcohol misuse, discrimination against families with indigenous or minority backgrounds, and living in armed conflict regions or under foreign occupation;

(*b*) To provide appropriate care and protection for vulnerable children, such as child victims of abuse and exploitation, abandoned children, children living on the street, children born out of wedlock, unaccompanied and separated children, internally displaced and refugee children, children of migrant workers, children of asylum-seekers, or children living with or affected by HIV/AIDS and other serious illnesses.

10. Special efforts should be made to tackle discrimination on the basis of any status of the child or parents, including poverty, ethnicity, religion, sex, mental and physical disability, HIV/AIDS or other serious illnesses, whether physical or mental, birth out of wedlock, and socio-economic stigma, and all other statuses and circumstances that can give rise to relinquishment, abandonment and/or removal of a child.

B. Alternative care

11. All decisions concerning alternative care should take full account of the desirability, in principle, of maintaining the child as close as possible to his/her habitual place of residence, in order to facilitate contact and potential reintegration with his/her family and to minimize disruption of his/her educational, cultural and social life.

12. Decisions regarding children in alternative care, including those in informal care, should have due regard for the importance of ensuring children a stable home and of meeting their basic need for safe and continuous attachment to their caregivers, with permanency generally being a key goal.

13. Children must be treated with dignity and respect at all times and must benefit from effective protection from abuse, neglect and all forms of exploitation, whether on the part of care providers, peers or third parties, in whatever care setting they may find themselves.

14. Removal of a child from the care of the family should be seen as a measure of last resort and should, whenever possible, be temporary and for the shortest possible duration. Removal decisions should be regularly reviewed and the child's return to parental care, once the original causes of removal have been

resolved or have disappeared, should be in the best interests of the child, in keeping with the assessment foreseen in paragraph 49 below.

15. Financial and material poverty, or conditions directly and uniquely imputable to such poverty, should never be the only justification for the removal of a child from parental care, for receiving a child into alternative care, or for preventing his/her reintegration, but should be seen as a signal for the need to provide appropriate support to the family.

16. Attention must be paid to promoting and safeguarding all other rights of special pertinence to the situation of children without parental care, including, but not limited to, access to education, health and other basic services, the right to identity, freedom of religion or belief, language and protection of property and inheritance rights.

17. Siblings with existing bonds should in principle not be separated by placements in alternative care unless there is a clear risk of abuse or other justification in the best interests of the child. In any case, every effort should be made to enable siblings to maintain contact with each other, unless this is against their wishes or interests.

18. Recognizing that, in most countries, the majority of children without parental care are looked after informally by relatives or others, States should seek to devise appropriate means, consistent with the present Guidelines, to ensure their welfare and protection while in such informal care arrangements, with due respect for cultural, economic, gender and religious differences and practices that do not conflict with the rights and best interests of the child.

19. No child should be without the support and protection of a legal guardian or other recognized responsible adult or competent public body at any time.

20. The provision of alternative care should never be undertaken with a prime purpose of furthering the political, religious or economic goals of the providers.

21. The use of residential care should be limited to cases where such a setting is specifically appropriate, necessary and constructive for the individual child concerned and in his/her best interests.

22. In accordance with the predominant opinion of experts, alternative care for young children, especially those under the age of 3 years, should be provided in family-based settings. Exceptions to this principle may be warranted in order to prevent the separation of siblings and in cases where the placement is of an emergency nature or is for a predetermined and very limited duration, with planned family reintegration or other appropriate long-term care solution as its outcome.

23. While recognizing that residential care facilities and family-based care complement each other in meeting the needs of children, where large residential care facilities (institutions) remain, alternatives should be developed in the context of an overall deinstitutionalization strategy, with precise goals and objectives, which will allow for their progressive elimination. To this end, States should establish care standards to ensure the quality and conditions that are conducive to the child's development, such as individualized and small-group care, and should evaluate existing facilities against these standards. Decisions regarding the establishment of, or permission to establish, new residential care facilities, whether public or private, should take full account of this deinstitutionalization objective and strategy.

Measures to promote application

24. States should, to the maximum extent of their available resources and, where appropriate, within the framework of development cooperation, allocate human and financial resources to ensure the optimal and progressive implementation of the present Guidelines throughout their respective territories in a timely manner. States should facilitate active cooperation among all relevant authorities and the mainstreaming of child and family welfare issues within all ministries directly or indirectly concerned.

25. States are responsible for determining any need for, and requesting, international cooperation in implementing the present Guidelines. Such requests should be given due consideration and should receive a favourable response wherever possible and appropriate. The enhanced implementation of the present Guidelines should figure in development cooperation programmes. When providing assistance to a State, foreign entities should abstain from any initiative inconsistent with the Guidelines.

26. Nothing in the present Guidelines should be interpreted as encouraging or condoning lower standards than those that may exist in given States, including in their legislation. Similarly, competent authorities, professional organizations and others are encouraged to develop national or professionally specific guidelines that build upon the letter and spirit of the present Guidelines.

III. Scope of the Guidelines

27. The present Guidelines apply to the appropriate use and conditions of alternative formal care for all persons under the age of 18 years, unless, under the law applicable to the child, majority is attained earlier. Only where indicated do the Guidelines also apply to informal care settings, having due regard for both the important role played by the extended family and the community and the obligations of States for all children not in the care of their parents or legal and customary caregivers, as set out in the Convention on the Rights of the Child.[157]

28. Principles in the present Guidelines are also applicable, as appropriate, to young persons already in alternative care and

who need continuing care or support for a transitional period after reaching the age of majority under applicable law.

29. For the purposes of the present Guidelines, and subject, notably, to the exceptions listed in paragraph 30 below, the following definitions shall apply:

(a) Children without parental care: all children not in the overnight care of at least one of their parents, for whatever reason and under whatever circumstances. Children without parental care who are outside their country of habitual residence or victims of emergency situations may be designated as:

(i) "Unaccompanied" if they are not cared for by another relative or an adult who by law or custom is responsible for doing so; or

(ii) "Separated" if they are separated from a previous legal or customary primary caregiver, but who may nevertheless be accompanied by another relative;

(b) Alternative care may take the form of:

(i) Informal care: any private arrangement provided in a family environment, whereby the child is looked after on an ongoing or indefinite basis by relatives or friends (informal kinship care) or by others in their individual capacity, at the initiative of the child, his/her parents or other person without this arrangement having been ordered by an administrative or judicial authority or a duly accredited body;

(ii) Formal care: all care provided in a family environment which has been ordered by a competent administrative body or judicial authority, and all care provided in a residential environment, including in private facilities, whether or not as a result of administrative or judicial measures;

(c) With respect to the environment where it is provided, alternative care may be:

(i) Kinship care: family-based care within the child's extended family or with close friends of the family known to the child, whether formal or informal in nature;

(ii) Foster care: situations where children are placed by a competent authority for the purpose of alternative care in the domestic environment of a family other than the children's own family that has been selected, qualified, approved and supervised for providing such care;

(iii) Other forms of family-based or family-like care placements;

(iv) Residential care: care provided in any non-family-based group setting, such as places of safety for emergency care, transit centres in emergency situations, and all other short- and long-term residential care facilities, including group homes;

(v) Supervised independent living arrangements for children;

(d) With respect to those responsible for alternative care:

(i) Agencies are the public or private bodies and services that organize alternative care for children;

(ii) Facilities are the individual public or private establishments that provide residential care for children.

30. The scope of alternative care as foreseen in the present Guidelines does not extend, however, to:

(a) Persons under the age of 18 years who are deprived of their liberty by decision of a judicial or administrative authority as a result of being alleged as, accused of or recognized as having infringed the law, and whose situation is covered by the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Administration of Juvenile Justice[161] and the United Nations Rules for the Protection of Juveniles Deprived of Their Liberty;[162]

(b) Care by adoptive parents from the moment the child concerned is effectively placed in their custody pursuant to a final adoption order, as of which moment, for the purposes of the present Guidelines, the child is considered to be in parental care. The Guidelines are, however, applicable to pre-adoption or probationary placement of a child with the prospective adoptive parents, as far as they are compatible with requirements governing such placements as stipulated in other relevant international instruments;

(c) Informal arrangements whereby a child voluntarily stays with relatives or friends for recreational purposes and reasons not connected with the parents' general inability or unwillingness to provide adequate care.

31. Competent authorities and others concerned are also encouraged to make use of the present Guidelines, as applicable, at boarding schools, hospitals, centres for children with mental and physical disabilities or other special needs, camps, the workplace and other places which may be responsible for the care of children.

IV. Preventing the need for alternative care

A. Promoting parental care

32. States should pursue policies that ensure support for families in meeting their responsibilities towards the child and promote the right of the child to have a relationship with both parents. These policies should address the root causes of child abandonment, relinquishment and separation of the child from

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[161] Resolution 40/33, annex.

[162] Resolution 45/113, annex.

his/her family by ensuring, inter alia, the right to birth registration, and access to adequate housing and to basic health, education and social welfare services, as well as by promoting measures to combat poverty, discrimination, marginalization, stigmatization, violence, child maltreatment and sexual abuse, and substance abuse.

33. States should develop and implement consistent and mutually reinforcing family-oriented policies designed to promote and strengthen parents' ability to care for their children.

34. States should implement effective measures to prevent child abandonment, relinquishment and separation of the child from his/her family. Social policies and programmes should, inter alia, empower families with attitudes, skills, capacities and tools to enable them to provide adequately for the protection, care and development of their children. The complementary capacities of the State and civil society, including non-governmental and community-based organizations, religious leaders and the media should be engaged to this end. These social protection measures should include:

(a) Family strengthening services, such as parenting courses and sessions, the promotion of positive parent-child relationships, conflict resolution skills, opportunities for employment and income generation and, where required, social assistance;

(b) Supportive social services, such as day care, mediation and conciliation services, substance abuse treatment, financial assistance, and services for parents and children with disabilities. Such services, preferably of an integrated and non-intrusive nature, should be directly accessible at the community level and should actively involve the participation of families as partners, combining their resources with those of the community and the carer;

(c) Youth policies aiming at empowering youth to face positively the challenges of everyday life, including when they decide to leave the parental home, and preparing future parents to make informed decisions regarding their sexual and reproductive health and to fulfil their responsibilities in this respect.

35. Various complementary methods and techniques should be used for family support, varying throughout the process of support, such as home visits, group meetings with other families, case conferences and securing commitments by the family concerned. They should be directed towards both facilitating intrafamilial relationships and promoting the family's integration within its community.

36. Special attention should be paid, in accordance with local laws, to the provision and promotion of support and care services for single and adolescent parents and their children, whether or not born out of wedlock. States should ensure that adolescent parents retain all rights inherent to their status both as parents and as children, including access to all appropriate services for their own development, allowances to which parents are entitled, and their inheritance rights. Measures should be adopted to ensure the protection of pregnant adolescents and to guarantee that they do not interrupt their studies. Efforts should also be made to reduce the stigma attached to single and adolescent parenthood.

37. Support and services should be available to siblings who have lost their parents or caregivers and choose to remain together in their household, to the extent that the eldest sibling is both willing and deemed capable of acting as the household head. States should ensure, including through the appointment of a legal guardian, a recognized responsible adult or, where appropriate, a public body legally mandated to act as guardian, as stipulated in paragraph 19 above, that such households benefit from mandatory protection from all forms of exploitation and abuse, and supervision and support on the part of the local community and its competent services, such as social workers, with particular concern for the children's health, housing, education and inheritance rights. Special attention should be given to ensuring that the head of such a household retains all rights inherent to his/her child status, including access to education and leisure, in addition to his/her rights as a household head.

38. States should ensure opportunities for day care, including all-day schooling, and respite care which would enable parents better to cope with their overall responsibilities towards the family, including additional responsibilities inherent in caring for children with special needs.

Preventing family separation

39. Proper criteria based on sound professional principles should be developed and consistently applied for assessing the child's and the family's situation, including the family's actual and potential capacity to care for the child, in cases where the competent authority or agency has reasonable grounds to believe that the well-being of the child is at risk.

40. Decisions regarding removal or reintegration should be based on this assessment and should be made by suitably qualified and trained professionals, on behalf of or authorized by a competent authority, in full consultation with all concerned and bearing in mind the need to plan for the child's future.

41. States are encouraged to adopt measures for the integral protection and guarantee of rights during pregnancy, birth and the breastfeeding period, in order to ensure conditions of dignity and equality for the adequate development of the pregnancy and the care of the child. Therefore, support programmes should be provided to future mothers and fathers, particularly adolescent parents, who have difficulty exercising their parental responsibilities. Such programmes should aim at empowering mothers and fathers to exercise their parental responsibilities in conditions of dignity and at avoiding their being induced to surrender their child because of their vulnerability.

42. When a child is relinquished or abandoned, States should ensure that this may take place in conditions of confidentiality and safety for the child, respecting his/her right to access information on his/her origins where appropriate and possible under the law of the State.

43. States should formulate clear policies to address situations where a child has been abandoned anonymously, which indicate whether and how family tracing should be undertaken and reunification or placement within the extended family pursued. Policies should also allow for timely decision-making on the child's eligibility for permanent family placement and for arranging such placements expeditiously.

44. When a public or private agency or facility is approached by a parent or legal guardian wishing to relinquish a child permanently, the State should ensure that the family receives counselling and social support to encourage and enable them to continue to care for the child. If this fails, a social worker or other appropriate professional assessment should be undertaken to determine whether there are other family members who wish to take permanent responsibility for the child, and whether such arrangements would be in the best interests of the child. Where such arrangements are not possible or are not in the best interests of the child, efforts should be made to find a permanent family placement within a reasonable period.

45. When a public or private agency or facility is approached by a parent or caregiver wishing to place a child in care for a short or indefinite period, the State should ensure the availability of counselling and social support to encourage and enable him or her to continue to care for the child. A child should be admitted to alternative care only when such efforts have been exhausted and acceptable and justified reasons for entry into care exist.

46. Specific training should be provided to teachers and others working with children in order to help them to identify situations of abuse, neglect, exploitation or risk of abandonment and to refer such situations to competent bodies.

47. Any decision to remove a child against the will of his/her parents must be made by competent authorities, in accordance with applicable law and procedures and subject to judicial review, the parents being assured the right of appeal and access to appropriate legal representation.

48. When the child's sole or main carer may be the subject of deprivation of liberty as a result of preventive detention or sentencing decisions, non-custodial remand measures and sentences should be taken in appropriate cases wherever possible, the best interests of the child being given due consideration. States should take into account the best interests of the child when deciding whether to remove children born in prison and children living in prison with a parent. The removal of such children should be treated in the same way as other instances where separation is considered. Best efforts should be made to ensure that children remaining in custody with their parent benefit from adequate care and protection, while guaranteeing their own status as free individuals and access to activities in the community.

B. Promoting family reintegration

49. In order to prepare and support the child and the family for his/her possible return to the family, his/her situation should be assessed by a duly designated individual or team with access to multidisciplinary advice, in consultation with the different actors involved (the child, the family, the alternative caregiver), so as to decide whether the reintegration of the child in the family is possible and in the best interests of the child, which steps this would involve and under whose supervision.

50. The aims of the reintegration and the family's and alternative caregiver's principal tasks in this respect should be set out in writing and agreed on by all concerned.

51. Regular and appropriate contact between the child and his/her family specifically for the purpose of reintegration should be developed, supported and monitored by the competent body.

52. Once decided, the reintegration of the child in his/her family should be designed as a gradual and supervised process, accompanied by follow-up and support measures that take account of the child's age, needs and evolving capacities, as well as the cause of the separation.

V. Framework of care provision

53. In order to meet the specific psychoemotional, social and other needs of each child without parental care, States should take all necessary measures to ensure that the legislative, policy and financial conditions exist to provide for adequate alternative care options, with priority to family- and community-based solutions.

54. States should ensure the availability of a range of alternative care options, consistent with the general principles of the present Guidelines, for emergency, short-term and long-term care.

55. States should ensure that all entities and individuals engaged in the provision of alternative care for children receive due authorization to do so from a competent authority and are subject to regular monitoring and review by the latter in keeping with the present Guidelines. To this end, these authorities should develop appropriate criteria for assessing the professional and ethical fitness of care providers and for their accreditation, monitoring and supervision.

56. With regard to informal care arrangements for the child, whether within the extended family, with friends or with other parties, States should, where appropriate, encourage such carers to notify the competent authorities accordingly so that they and the child may receive any necessary financial and other support that would promote the child's welfare and protection. Where

possible and appropriate, States should encourage and enable informal caregivers, with the consent of the child and parents concerned, to formalize the care arrangement after a suitable lapse of time, to the extent that the arrangement has proved to be in the best interests of the child to date and is expected to continue in the foreseeable future.

VI. Determination of the most appropriate form of care

57. Decision-making on alternative care in the best interests of the child should take place through a judicial, administrative or other adequate and recognized procedure, with legal safeguards, including, where appropriate, legal representation on behalf of children in any legal proceedings. It should be based on rigorous assessment, planning and review, through established structures and mechanisms, and should be carried out on a case-by-case basis, by suitably qualified professionals in a multidisciplinary team, wherever possible. It should involve full consultation at all stages with the child, according to his/her evolving capacities, and with his/her parents or legal guardians. To this end, all concerned should be provided with the necessary information on which to base their opinion. States should make every effort to provide adequate resources and channels for the training and recognition of the professionals responsible for determining the best form of care so as to facilitate compliance with these provisions.

58. Assessment should be carried out expeditiously, thoroughly and carefully. It should take into account the child's immediate safety and well-being, as well as his/her longer-term care and development, and should cover the child's personal and developmental characteristics, ethnic, cultural, linguistic and religious background, family and social environment, medical history and any special needs.

59. The resulting initial and review reports should be used as essential tools for planning decisions from the time of their acceptance by the competent authorities onwards, with a view to, inter alia, avoiding undue disruption and contradictory decisions.

60. Frequent changes in care setting are detrimental to the child's development and ability to form attachments, and should be avoided. Short-term placements should aim at enabling an appropriate permanent solution to be arranged. Permanency for the child should be secured without undue delay through reintegration in his/her nuclear or extended family or, if this is not possible, in an alternative stable family setting or, where paragraph 21 above applies, in stable and appropriate residential care.

61. Planning for care provision and permanency should be carried out from the earliest possible time, ideally before the child enters care, taking into account the immediate and longer-term advantages and disadvantages of each option considered, and should comprise short- and long-term propositions.

62. Planning for care provision and permanency should be based on, notably, the nature and quality of the child's attachment to his/her family, the family's capacity to safeguard the child's well-being and harmonious development, the child's need or desire to feel part of a family, the desirability of the child remaining within his/her community and country, the child's cultural, linguistic and religious background, and the child's relationships with siblings, with a view to avoiding their separation.

63. The plan should clearly state, inter alia, the goals of the placement and the measures to achieve them.

64. The child and his/her parents or legal guardians should be fully informed about the alternative care options available, the implications of each option and their rights and obligations in the matter.

65. The preparation, enforcement and evaluation of a protective measure for a child should be carried out, to the greatest extent possible, with the participation of his/her parents or legal guardians and potential foster carers and caregivers, with respect to his/her particular needs, convictions and special wishes. At the request of the child, parents or legal guardians, other important persons in the child's life may also be consulted in any decision-making process, at the discretion of the competent authority.

66. States should ensure that any child who has been placed in alternative care by a properly constituted court, tribunal or administrative or other competent body, as well as his/her parents or others with parental responsibility, are given the opportunity to make representations on the placement decision before a court, are informed of their rights to make such representations and are assisted in doing so.

67. States should ensure the right of any child who has been placed in temporary care to regular and thorough review – preferably at least every three months – of the appropriateness of his/her care and treatment, taking into account, notably, his/her personal development and any changing needs, developments in his/her family environment, and the adequacy and necessity of the current placement in these circumstances. The review should be carried out by duly qualified and authorized persons, and should fully involve the child and all relevant persons in the child's life.

68. The child should be prepared for all changes of care settings resulting from the planning and review processes.

VII. Provision of alternative care

A. Policies

69. It is a responsibility of the State or appropriate level of government to ensure the development and implementation of coordinated policies regarding formal and informal care for all children who are without parental care. Such policies should be based on sound information and statistical data. They should

define a process for determining who has responsibility for a child, taking into account the role of the child's parents or principal caregivers in his/her protection, care and development. Presumptive responsibility, unless shown to be otherwise, is with the child's parents or principal caregivers.

70. All State entities involved in the referral of, and assistance to, children without parental care, in cooperation with civil society, should adopt policies and procedures which favour information-sharing and networking between agencies and individuals in order to ensure effective care, aftercare and protection for these children. The location and/or design of the agency responsible for the oversight of alternative care should be established so as to maximize its accessibility to those who require the services provided.

71. Special attention should be paid to the quality of alternative care provision, both in residential and in family-based care, in particular with regard to the professional skills, selection, training and supervision of carers. Their role and functions should be clearly defined and clarified with respect to those of the child's parents or legal guardians.

72. In each country, the competent authorities should draw up a document setting out the rights of children in alternative care in keeping with the present Guidelines. Children in alternative care should be enabled to understand fully the rules, regulations and objectives of the care setting and their rights and obligations therein.

73. All alternative care provision should be based on a written statement of the provider's aims and objectives in providing the service and the nature of the provider's responsibilities to the child that reflects the standards set by the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[157] the present Guidelines and applicable law. All providers should be appropriately qualified or approved in accordance with legal requirements to provide alternative care services.

74. A regulatory framework should be established to ensure a standard process for the referral or admission of a child to an alternative care setting.

75. Cultural and religious practices regarding the provision of alternative care, including those related to gender perspectives, should be respected and promoted to the extent that they can be shown to be consistent with the rights and best interests of the children. The process of considering whether such practices should be promoted should be carried out in a broadly participatory way, involving the cultural and religious leaders concerned, professionals and those caring for children without parental care, parents and other relevant stakeholders, as well as the children themselves.

1. Informal care

76. With a view to ensuring that appropriate conditions of care are met in informal care provided by individuals or families, States should recognize the role played by this type of care and take adequate measures to support its optimal provision on the basis of an assessment of which particular settings may require special assistance or oversight.

77. Competent authorities should, where appropriate, encourage informal carers to notify the care arrangement and should seek to ensure their access to all available services and benefits likely to assist them in discharging their duty to care for and protect the child.

78. The State should recognize the de facto responsibility of informal carers for the child.

79. States should devise special and appropriate measures designed to protect children in informal care from abuse, neglect, child labour and all other forms of exploitation, with particular attention to informal care provided by non-relatives, or by relatives previously unknown to the children or living far from the children's habitual place of residence.

2. General conditions applying to all forms of formal alternative care arrangements

80. The transfer of a child into alternative care should be carried out with the utmost sensitivity and in a child-friendly manner, in particular involving specially trained and, in principle, non-uniformed personnel.

81. When a child is placed in alternative care, contact with his/her family, as well as with other persons close to him or her, such as friends, neighbours and previous carers, should be encouraged and facilitated, in keeping with the child's protection and best interests. The child should have access to information on the situation of his/her family members in the absence of contact with them.

82. States should pay special attention to ensuring that children in alternative care because of parental imprisonment or prolonged hospitalization have the opportunity to maintain contact with their parents and receive any necessary counselling and support in that regard.

83. Carers should ensure that children receive adequate amounts of wholesome and nutritious food in accordance with local dietary habits and relevant dietary standards, as well as with the children's religious beliefs. Appropriate nutritional supplementation should also be provided when necessary.

84. Carers should promote the health of the children for whom they are responsible and make arrangements to ensure that medical care, counselling and support are made available as required.

85. Children should have access to formal, non-formal and vocational education in accordance with their rights, to the maximum extent possible in educational facilities in the local community.

86. Carers should ensure that the right of every child, including children with disabilities, living with or affected by HIV/AIDS or having any other special needs, to develop through play and leisure activities is respected and that opportunities for such activities are created within and outside the care setting. Contact with the children and others in the local community should be encouraged and facilitated.

87. The specific safety, health, nutritional, developmental and other needs of babies and young children, including those with special needs, should be catered for in all care settings, including ensuring their ongoing attachment to a specific carer.

88. Children should be allowed to satisfy the needs of their religious and spiritual life, including by receiving visits from a qualified representative of their religion, and to freely decide whether or not to participate in religious services, religious education or counselling. The child's own religious background should be respected, and no child should be encouraged or persuaded to change his/her religion or belief during a care placement.

89. All adults responsible for children should respect and promote the right to privacy, including appropriate facilities for hygiene and sanitary needs, respecting gender differences and interaction, and adequate, secure and accessible storage space for personal possessions.

90. Carers should understand the importance of their role in developing positive, safe and nurturing relationships with children, and should be able to do so.

91. Accommodation in all alternative care settings should meet the requirements of health and safety.

92. States must ensure through their competent authorities that accommodation provided to children in alternative care, and their supervision in such placements, enable them to be effectively protected against abuse. Particular attention needs to be paid to the age, maturity and degree of vulnerability of each child in determining his/her living arrangements. Measures aimed at protecting children in care should be in conformity with the law and should not involve unreasonable constraints on their liberty and conduct in comparison with children of similar age in their community.

93. All alternative care settings should provide adequate protection to children from abduction, trafficking, sale and all other forms of exploitation. Any consequent constraints on their liberty and conduct should be no more than are strictly necessary to ensure their effective protection from such acts.

94. All carers should promote and encourage children and young people to develop and exercise informed choices, taking account of acceptable risks and the child's age, and according to his/her evolving capacities.

95. States, agencies and facilities, schools and other community services should take appropriate measures to ensure that children in alternative care are not stigmatized during or after their placement. This should include efforts to minimize the identification of children as being looked after in an alternative care setting.

96. All disciplinary measures and behaviour management constituting torture, cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment, including closed or solitary confinement or any other forms of physical or psychological violence that are likely to compromise the physical or mental health of the child, must be strictly prohibited in conformity with international human rights law. States must take all necessary measures to prevent such practices and ensure that they are punishable by law. Restriction of contact with members of the child's family and other persons of special importance to the child should never be used as a sanction.

97. Use of force and restraints of whatever nature should not be authorized unless strictly necessary for safeguarding the child's or others' physical or psychological integrity, in conformity with the law and in a reasonable and proportionate manner and with respect for the fundamental rights of the child. Restraint by means of drugs and medication should be based on therapeutic needs and should never be employed without evaluation and prescription by a specialist.

98. Children in care should be offered access to a person of trust in whom they may confide in total confidentiality. This person should be designated by the competent authority with the agreement of the child concerned. The child should be informed that legal or ethical standards may require breaching confidentiality under certain circumstances.

99. Children in care should have access to a known, effective and impartial mechanism whereby they can notify complaints or concerns regarding their treatment or conditions of placement. Such mechanisms should include initial consultation, feedback, implementation and further consultation. Young people with previous care experience should be involved in this process, due weight being given to their opinions. This process should be conducted by competent persons trained to work with children and young people.

100. To promote the child's sense of self-identity, a life story book comprising appropriate information, pictures, personal objects and mementoes regarding each step of the child's life should be maintained with the child's participation and made available to the child throughout his/her life.

B. Legal responsibility for the child

101. In situations where the child's parents are absent or are incapable of making day-to-day decisions in the best interests of the child, and the child's placement in alternative care has been ordered or authorized by a competent administrative body or judicial authority, a designated individual or competent entity should be vested with the legal right and responsibility to make such decisions in the place of parents, in full consultation with

the child. States should ensure that a mechanism is in place for designating such an individual or entity.

102. Such legal responsibility should be attributed by the competent authorities and be supervised directly by them or through formally accredited entities, including non-governmental organizations. Accountability for the actions of the individual or entity concerned should lie with the designating body.

103. Persons exercising such legal responsibility should be reputable individuals with relevant knowledge of children's issues, an ability to work directly with children and an understanding of any special and cultural needs of the children to be entrusted to them. They should receive appropriate training and professional support in this regard. They should be in a position to make independent and impartial decisions that are in the best interests of the children concerned and that promote and safeguard each child's welfare.

104. The role and specific responsibilities of the designated person or entity should include:

(*a*) Ensuring that the rights of the child are protected and, in particular, that the child has appropriate care, accommodation, health-care provision, developmental opportunities, psychosocial support, education and language support;

(*b*) Ensuring that the child has access to legal and other representation where necessary, consulting with the child so that the child's views are taken into account by decision-making authorities, and advising and keeping the child informed of his/her rights;

(*c*) Contributing to the identification of a stable solution in the best interests of the child;

(*d*) Providing a link between the child and various organizations that may provide services to the child;

(*e*) Assisting the child in family tracing;

(*f*) Ensuring that, if repatriation or family reunification is carried out, it is done in the best interests of the child;

(*g*) Helping the child to keep in touch with his/her family, when appropriate.

I. Agencies and facilities responsible for formal care

105. Legislation should stipulate that all agencies and facilities must be registered and authorized to operate by social welfare services or another competent authority, and that failure to comply with such legislation constitutes an offence punishable by law. Authorization should be granted and be regularly reviewed by the competent authorities on the basis of standard criteria covering, at a minimum, the agency's or facility's objectives, functioning, staff recruitment and qualifications, conditions of care and financial resources and management.

106. All agencies and facilities should have written policy and practice statements, consistent with the present Guidelines, setting out clearly their aims, policies, methods and the standards applied for the recruitment, monitoring, supervision and evaluation of qualified and suitable carers to ensure that those aims are met.

107. All agencies and facilities should develop a staff code of conduct, consistent with the present Guidelines, that defines the role of each professional and of the carers in particular and includes clear reporting procedures on allegations of misconduct by any team member.

108. The forms of financing care provision should never be such as to encourage a child's unnecessary placement or prolonged stay in care arrangements organized or provided by an agency or facility.

109. Comprehensive and up-to-date records should be maintained regarding the administration of alternative care services, including detailed files on all children in their care, staff employed and financial transactions.

110. The records on children in care should be complete, up to date, confidential and secure, and should include information on their admission and departure and the form, content and details of the care placement of each child, together with any appropriate identity documents and other personal information. Information on the child's family should be included in the child's file as well as in the reports based on regular evaluations. This record should follow the child throughout the alternative care period and be consulted by duly authorized professionals responsible for his/her current care.

111. The above-mentioned records could be made available to the child, as well as to the parents or guardians, within the limits of the child's right to privacy and confidentiality, as appropriate. Appropriate counselling should be provided before, during and after consultation of the record.

112. All alternative care services should have a clear policy on maintaining the confidentiality of information pertaining to each child, which all carers are aware of and adhere to.

113. As a matter of good practice, all agencies and facilities should systematically ensure that, prior to employment, carers and other staff in direct contact with children undergo an appropriate and comprehensive assessment of their suitability to work with children.

114. Conditions of work, including remuneration, for carers employed by agencies and facilities should be such as to maximize motivation, job satisfaction and continuity, and hence their disposition to fulfil their role in the most appropriate and effective manner.

115. Training should be provided to all carers on the rights of children without parental care and on the specific vulnerability

of children, in particularly difficult situations, such as emergency placements or placements outside their area of habitual residence. Cultural, social, gender and religious sensitization should also be assured. States should also provide adequate resources and channels for the recognition of these professionals in order to favour the implementation of these provisions.

116. Training in dealing appropriately with challenging behaviour, including conflict resolution techniques and means to prevent acts of harm or self-harm, should be provided to all care staff employed by agencies and facilities.

117. Agencies and facilities should ensure that, wherever appropriate, carers are prepared to respond to children with special needs, notably those living with HIV/AIDS or other chronic physical or mental illnesses, and children with physical or mental disabilities.

2. Foster care

118. The competent authority or agency should devise a system, and should train concerned staff accordingly, to assess and match the needs of the child with the abilities and resources of potential foster carers and to prepare all concerned for the placement.

119. A pool of accredited foster carers should be identified in each locality who can provide children with care and protection while maintaining ties to family, community and cultural group.

120. Special preparation, support and counselling services for foster carers should be developed and made available to carers at regular intervals, before, during and after the placement.

121. Carers should have, within fostering agencies and other systems involved with children without parental care, the opportunity to make their voice heard and to influence policy.

122. Encouragement should be given to the establishment of associations of foster carers that can provide important mutual support and contribute to practice and policy development.

C. Residential care

123. Facilities providing residential care should be small and be organized around the rights and needs of the child, in a setting as close as possible to a family or small group situation. Their objective should generally be to provide temporary care and to contribute actively to the child's family reintegration or, if this is not possible, to secure his/her stable care in an alternative family setting, including through adoption or *kafala* of Islamic law, where appropriate.

124. Measures should be taken so that, where necessary and appropriate, a child solely in need of protection and alternative care may be accommodated separately from children who are subject to the criminal justice system.

125. The competent national or local authority should establish rigorous screening procedures to ensure that only appropriate admissions to such facilities are made.

126. States should ensure that there are sufficient carers in residential care settings to allow individualized attention and to give the child, where appropriate, the opportunity to bond with a specific carer. Carers should also be deployed within the care setting in such a way as to implement effectively its aims and objectives and ensure child protection.

127. Laws, policies and regulations should prohibit the recruitment and solicitation of children for placement in residential care by agencies, facilities or individuals.

D. Inspection and monitoring

128. Agencies, facilities and professionals involved in care provision should be accountable to a specific public authority, which should ensure, inter alia, frequent inspections comprising both scheduled and unannounced visits, involving discussion with and observation of the staff and the children.

129. To the extent possible and appropriate, inspection functions should include a component of training and capacity-building for care providers.

130. States should be encouraged to ensure that an independent monitoring mechanism is in place, with due consideration for the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (the Paris Principles).[163] The monitoring mechanism should be easily accessible to children, parents and those responsible for children without parental care. The functions of the monitoring mechanism should include:

(*a*) Consulting in conditions of privacy with children in all forms of alternative care, visiting the care settings in which they live and undertaking investigations into any alleged situation of violation of children's rights in those settings, on complaint or on its own initiative;

(*b*) Recommending relevant policies to appropriate authorities with the aim of improving the treatment of children deprived of parental care and ensuring that it is in keeping with the preponderance of research findings on child protection, health, development and care;

(*c*) Submitting proposals and observations concerning draft legislation;

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[163] Resolution 48/134, annex.

(*d*) Contributing independently to the reporting process under the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[157] including to periodic State party reports to the Committee on the Rights of the Child with regard to the implementation of the present Guidelines.

E. Support for aftercare

131. Agencies and facilities should have a clear policy and should carry out agreed procedures relating to the planned and unplanned conclusion of their work with children to ensure appropriate aftercare and/or follow-up. Throughout the period of care, they should systematically aim at preparing children to assume self-reliance and to integrate fully in the community, notably through the acquisition of social and life skills, which are fostered by participation in the life of the local community.

132. The process of transition from care to aftercare should take into consideration children's gender, age, maturity and particular circumstances and include counselling and support, notably to avoid exploitation. Children leaving care should be encouraged to take part in the planning of aftercare life. Children with special needs, such as disabilities, should benefit from an appropriate support system, ensuring, inter alia, avoidance of unnecessary institutionalization. Both the public and the private sectors should be encouraged, including through incentives, to employ children from different care services, particularly children with special needs.

133. Special efforts should be made to allocate to each child, whenever possible, a specialized person who can facilitate his/her independence when leaving care.

134. Aftercare should be prepared as early as possible in the placement and, in any case, well before the child leaves the care setting.

135. Ongoing educational and vocational training opportunities should be imparted as part of life skills education to young people leaving care in order to help them to become financially independent and generate their own income.

136. Access to social, legal and health services, together with appropriate financial support, should also be provided to young people leaving care and during aftercare.

VIII. Care provision for children outside their country of habitual residence

A. Placement of a child for care abroad

137. The present Guidelines should apply to all public and private entities and all persons involved in arrangements for a child to be sent for care to a country other than his/her country of habitual residence, whether for medical treatment, temporary hosting, respite care or any other reason.

138. States concerned should ensure that a designated body has responsibility for determining specific standards to be met regarding, in particular, the criteria for selecting carers in the host country and the quality of care and follow-up, as well as for supervising and monitoring the operation of such schemes.

139. To ensure appropriate international cooperation and child protection in such situations, States are encouraged to ratify or accede to the Hague Convention on Jurisdiction, Applicable Law, Recognition, Enforcement and Cooperation in respect of Parental Responsibility and Measures for the Protection of Children, of 19 October 1996.[164]

B. Provision of care for a child already abroad

140. The present Guidelines, as well as other relevant international provisions, should apply to all public and private entities and all persons involved in arrangements for a child needing care while in a country other than his/her country of habitual residence, for whatever reason.

141. Unaccompanied or separated children already abroad should, in principle, enjoy the same level of protection and care as national children in the country concerned.

142. In determining appropriate care provision, the diversity and disparity of unaccompanied or separated children (such as ethnic and migratory background or cultural and religious diversity) should be taken into consideration on a case-by-case basis.

143. Unaccompanied or separated children, including those who arrive irregularly in a country, should not, in principle, be deprived of their liberty solely for having breached any law governing access to and stay within the territory.

144. Child victims of trafficking should neither be detained in police custody nor subjected to penalties for their involvement under compulsion in unlawful activities.

145. As soon as an unaccompanied child is identified, States are strongly encouraged to appoint a guardian or, where necessary, representation by an organization responsible for his/her care and well-being to accompany the child throughout the status determination and decision-making process.

146. As soon as an unaccompanied or separated child is taken into care, all reasonable efforts should be made to trace his/her family and re-establish family ties, when this is in the best interests of the child and would not endanger those involved.

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[164] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2204, No. 39130.

147. In order to assist in planning the future of an unaccompanied or separated child in a manner that best protects his/her rights, relevant State and social service authorities should make all reasonable efforts to procure documentation and information in order to conduct an assessment of the child's risk and social and family conditions in his/her country of habitual residence.

148. Unaccompanied or separated children must not be returned to their country of habitual residence:

(*a*) If, following the risk and security assessment, there are reasons to believe that the child's safety and security are in danger;

(*b*) Unless, prior to the return, a suitable caregiver, such as a parent, other relative, other adult caretaker, a Government agency or an authorized agency or facility in the country of origin, has agreed and is able to take responsibility for the child and provide him or her with appropriate care and protection;

(*c*) If, for other reasons, it is not in the best interests of the child, according to the assessment of the competent authorities.

149. With the above aims in mind, cooperation among States, regions, local authorities and civil society associations should be promoted, strengthened and enhanced.

150. The effective involvement of consular services or, failing that, legal representatives of the country of origin should be foreseen, when this is in the best interests of the child and would not endanger the child or his/her family.

151. Those responsible for the welfare of an unaccompanied or separated child should facilitate regular communication between the child and his/her family, except where this is against the child's wishes or is demonstrably not in his/her best interests.

152. Placement with a view to adoption or *kafala* of Islamic law should not be considered a suitable initial option for an unaccompanied or separated child. States are encouraged to consider this option only after efforts to determine the location of his/her parents, extended family or habitual carers have been exhausted.

IX. Care in emergency situations

A. Application of the Guidelines

153. The present Guidelines should continue to apply in situations of emergency arising from natural and man-made disasters, including international and non-international armed conflicts, as well as foreign occupation. Individuals and organizations wishing to work on behalf of children without parental care in emergency situations are strongly encouraged to operate in accordance with the Guidelines.

154. In such circumstances, the State or de facto authorities in the region concerned, the international community and all local, national, foreign and international agencies providing or intending to provide child-focused services should pay special attention:

(*a*) To ensure that all entities and persons involved in responding to unaccompanied or separated children are sufficiently experienced, trained, resourceful and equipped to do so in an appropriate manner;

(*b*) To develop, as necessary, temporary and long-term family-based care;

(*c*) To use residential care only as a temporary measure until family-based care can be developed;

(*d*) To prohibit the establishment of new residential facilities structured to provide simultaneous care to large groups of children on a permanent or long-term basis;

(*e*) To prevent the cross-border displacement of children, except under the circumstances described in paragraph 160 below;

(*f*) To make cooperation with family tracing and reintegration efforts mandatory.

Preventing separation

155. Organizations and authorities should make every effort to prevent the separation of children from their parents or primary caregivers, unless the best interests of the child so require, and ensure that their actions do not inadvertently encourage family separation by providing services and benefits to children alone rather than to families.

156. Separation initiated by the child's parents or other primary caregivers should be prevented by:

(*a*) Ensuring that all households have access to basic food and medical supplies and other services, including education;

(*b*) Limiting the development of residential care options and restricting their use to those situations where it is absolutely necessary.

B. Care arrangements

157. Communities should be assisted in playing an active role in monitoring and responding to care and protection issues facing children in their local context.

158. Care within a child's own community, including fostering, should be encouraged, as it provides continuity in socialization and development.

159. As unaccompanied or separated children may be at heightened risk of abuse and exploitation, monitoring and specific support to carers should be foreseen to ensure their protection.

160. Children in emergency situations should not be moved to a country other than that of their habitual residence for alternative care except temporarily for compelling health, medical or safety reasons. In that case, this should be as close as possible to their home, they should be accompanied by a parent or caregiver known to them, and a clear return plan should be established.

161. Should family reintegration prove impossible within an appropriate period or be deemed contrary to the best interests of the child, stable and definitive solutions, such as adoption or *kafala* of Islamic law, should be envisaged; failing this, other long-term options should be considered, such as foster care or appropriate residential care, including group homes and other supervised living arrangements.

C. Tracing and family reintegration

162. Identifying, registering and documenting unaccompanied or separated children are priorities in any emergency and should be carried out as quickly as possible.

163. Registration activities should be conducted by or under the direct supervision of State authorities and explicitly mandated entities with responsibility for and experience in this task.

164. The confidential nature of the information collected should be respected and systems put in place for safe forwarding and storage of information. Information should only be shared among duly mandated agencies for the purpose of tracing, family reintegration and care.

165. All those engaged in tracing family members or primary legal or customary caregivers should operate within a coordinated system, using standardized forms and mutually compatible procedures, wherever possible. They should ensure that the child and others concerned would not be endangered by their actions.

166. The validity of relationships and the confirmation of the willingness of the child and family members to be reunited must be verified for every child. No action should be taken that may hinder eventual family reintegration, such as adoption, change of name or movement to places far from the family's likely location, until all tracing efforts have been exhausted.

167. Appropriate records of any placement of a child should be made and kept in a safe and secure manner so that reunification can be facilitated in the future.

RESOLUTION 64/143

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/434, para. 16)[165]

64/143. Report of the Human Rights Council

The General Assembly,

Having considered the recommendations contained in the report of the Human Rights Council,[166]

Takes note of the report of the Human Rights Council,[166] and acknowledges the recommendations contained therein.

RESOLUTION 64/144

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/434, para. 16)[167]

64/144. Office of the President of the Human Rights Council

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 60/251 of 15 March 2006 and Human Rights Council resolution 5/1 of 18 June 2007,[168]

Recalling also Human Rights Council decision 9/103 of 24 September 2008,[169] and underlining the crucial importance of appropriate resources to support the work of the Council and its numerous mechanisms,

Bearing in mind that the Human Rights Council meets regularly throughout the year in no fewer than three sessions per year for a total duration of no less than ten weeks,

Acknowledges the recommendation of the Human Rights Council to establish an Office of the President of the Human Rights Council, and requests the Council to address the question of the establishment and the modalities of an office in the context of the review of its work and functioning five years after its establishment, in accordance with resolution 60/251.

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[165] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by the Russian Federation, and Zambia (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States).

[166] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/64/53).

[167] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Benin, Brazil, Cape Verde, Chile, Costa Rica, Jordan, Liechtenstein, Mexico, Morocco, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Romania, Somalia, Switzerland, Turkey and Uruguay.

[168] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/62/53), chap. IV, sect. A.

[169] Ibid., *Sixty-third Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/63/53/Add.1), chap. II.

RESOLUTION 64/145

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/435 and Corr.1, para. 19)[170]

64/145. The girl child

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 62/140 of 18 December 2007 and all relevant resolutions, including the agreed conclusions of the Commission on the Status of Women, in particular those relevant to the girl child,

Reaffirming the equal rights of women and men as enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling all human rights and other instruments relevant to the rights of the child, in particular the girl child, including the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[171] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[172] the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities[173] and the Optional Protocols thereto,[174]

Welcoming the entry into force of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the specific attention paid therein to the fact that women and girls with disabilities are subject to multiple discrimination, including in education and schooling,

Reaffirming the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, as well as the commitments relevant to the girl child made at the 2005 World Summit,[175]

Recalling the Convention on Consent to Marriage, Minimum Age for Marriage and Registration of Marriages,[176]

Reaffirming the outcome document of the twenty-seventh special session of the General Assembly on children, entitled "A world fit for children",[177] the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS adopted at the twenty-sixth special session of the General Assembly on HIV/AIDS, entitled "Global Crisis – Global Action",[178] and the Political Declaration on HIV/AIDS of 2006,[179]

Reaffirming also all other relevant outcomes of major United Nations summits and conferences relevant to the girl child, as well as their five- and ten-year reviews, including the Beijing Declaration[180] and Platform for Action[181] adopted at the Fourth World Conference on Women, the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century",[182] the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development,[183] the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development[184] and the declaration adopted by the Commission on the Status of Women at its forty-ninth session in 2005,[185] as well as the agreed conclusions adopted by the Commission at its fifty-first session,[186] at which it considered "The elimination of all forms of discrimination and violence against the girl child" as its priority theme,

Looking forward to the fifteen-year review of the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and the review of the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, emphasizing the sharing of experiences and good practices, with a view to overcoming remaining obstacles and new challenges, including those related to the Millennium Development Goals, which will take place during the fifty-fourth session of the Commission on the Status of Women, in 2010,

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[170] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Armenia, Australia, Azerbaijan, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Iceland, Israel, Jamaica, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Namibia (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Southern African Development Community), Nicaragua, Nigeria, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Rwanda, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovenia, Suriname, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Turkey and Uzbekistan.

[171] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[172] Ibid., vol. 1249, No. 20378.

[173] Resolution 61/106, annex I.

[174] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vols. 2171 and 2173, No. 27531; and ibid., vol. 2131, No. 20378; and resolution 61/106, annex II.

[175] See resolution 60/1.

[176] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 521, No. 7525.

[177] Resolution S-27/2, annex.

[178] Resolution S-26/2, annex.

[179] Resolution 60/262, annex.

[180] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[181] Ibid., annex II.

[182] Resolution S-23/2, annex, and resolution S-23/3, annex.

[183] *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5–13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[184] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6–12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[185] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2005, Supplement No. 7* and corrigendum (E/2005/27 and Corr.1), chap. I, sect. A; see also Economic and Social Council decision 2005/232.

[186] Ibid., *2007, Supplement No. 7* (E/2007/27), chap. I, sect. A.

Reaffirming the Dakar Framework for Action, adopted at the World Education Forum in 2000,[187]

Welcoming the appointment of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on violence against children, the creation of the new post of Special Representative of the Secretary-General on sexual violence in conflict and the launch of the Secretary-General's 2008–2015 campaign "UNiTE to End Violence against Women",

Recognizing that chronic poverty remains the single biggest obstacle to meeting the needs of and promoting and protecting the rights of children and that urgent national and international action is therefore required to eliminate it, and noting that the burden of the global financial and economic crisis, the energy crisis, the food crisis and the continuing food insecurity as a result of various factors is felt directly by households, especially those depending on income from the informal sector, and particularly by women and girls,

Recognizing also that girl children are often at greater risk of being exposed to and encountering various forms of discrimination and violence, which continue to hinder efforts towards the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, and reaffirming the need to achieve gender equality to ensure a just and equitable world for girls, including through partnering with men and boys, as an important strategy for advancing the rights of the girl child,

Recognizing further that progress has been made in the passage of national legislation that affirms the equality of girls and boys and that corresponding measures have not been taken to effectively implement such legislation, and recognizing the continuing existence of discrimination against women and girls throughout the world and that addressing this situation will require additional efforts to strengthen policy implementation, including through international cooperation,

Recognizing that the empowerment of girls is key in breaking the cycle of discrimination and violence and in promoting and protecting the full and effective enjoyment of their human rights, and further recognizing that empowering girls requires the active support and engagement of their parents, legal guardians, families, boys and men, as well as the wider community,

Deeply concerned about all forms of violence against children, in particular about phenomena that disproportionately affect girls, such as commercial sexual exploitation and child pornography, child and forced marriage, rape and domestic violence, and, in addition, about the corresponding lack of accountability and impunity, which reflect discriminatory norms reinforcing the lower status of girls in society,

Deeply concerned also about discrimination against the girl child and the violation of the rights of the girl child, which often result in less access for girls to education, and to quality education, nutrition and physical and mental health care, in girls enjoying fewer of the rights, opportunities and benefits of childhood and adolescence than boys, and in leaving them more vulnerable than boys to the consequences of unprotected and premature sexual relations and often being subjected to various forms of cultural, social, sexual and economic exploitation and violence, abuse, rape, incest, honour-related crimes and harmful traditional practices, such as female infanticide, child and forced marriages, prenatal sex selection and female genital mutilation,

Deeply concerned further that female genital mutilation violates and impairs the full enjoyment of the human rights of women and girls and that it is an irreparable and irreversible harmful practice that affects between 100 million and 140 million women and girls alive today, and that each year over 3 million girls are at risk of undergoing the harmful procedure,

Deeply concerned that the goal of ending female genital mutilation by 2010, set out in the document entitled "A world fit for children", will go unmet,

Deeply concerned also that, in situations of poverty, war and armed conflict, girl children are among those most affected and furthermore become the victims of sexual violence, abuse and exploitation and sexually transmitted infections and diseases, including HIV and AIDS, which have a serious impact on the quality of their lives and leave them open to further discrimination, violence and neglect, thus limiting their potential for full development,

Emphasizing that increased access to education, including in the areas of sexual and reproductive health, for young people, especially girls, dramatically lowers their vulnerability to preventable diseases, in particular HIV infection and sexually transmitted diseases,

Concerned by the increasing number of child-headed households, in particular those headed by orphaned girls, including those orphaned by the HIV and AIDS pandemic,

Deeply concerned that early childbearing and limited access to sexual and reproductive health care, including in the area of emergency obstetric care, causes high levels of obstetric fistula and maternal mortality and morbidity,

Convinced that racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance reveal themselves in a differentiated manner for women and girls and can be among the factors leading to a deterioration in their living conditions, poverty, violence, multiple forms of discrimination and limitation or denial of their human rights,

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[187] See United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Final Report of the World Education Forum, Dakar, Senegal, 26–28 April 2000* (Paris, 2000).

Recognizing that early childbearing continues to be an impediment to the improvement of the educational and social status of girls in all parts of the world and that, overall, child and forced marriages and early motherhood can severely curtail their educational opportunities and are likely to have a long-term, adverse impact on their employment opportunities and on their and their children's quality of life,

Noting with concern that in some areas of the world men outnumber women as a result, in part, of harmful attitudes and practices, such as female genital mutilation, son preference, which results in female infanticide and prenatal sex selection, early marriage, including child marriage, violence against women, sexual exploitation, sexual abuse and discrimination against girls in food allocation and in other practices related to health and well-being, resulting in fewer girls than boys surviving into adulthood,

Taking note with appreciation of the adoption of the Rio de Janeiro Declaration and Call for Action to Prevent and Stop Sexual Exploitation of Children and Adolescents, which is the outcome document of the Third World Congress against Sexual Exploitation of Children and Adolescents, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 25 to 28 November 2008,

1. *Stresses* the need for full and urgent implementation of the rights of the girl child as provided to her under human rights instruments, and urges States to consider signing and ratifying or acceding to the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[171] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[172] the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities[173] and the Optional Protocols thereto[174] as a matter of priority;

2. *Urges* all States that have not yet signed and ratified or acceded to the Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138) and the Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182), of the International Labour Organization to consider doing so;

3. *Urges* all Governments and the United Nations system to strengthen efforts bilaterally and with international organizations and private sector donors in order to achieve the goals of the World Education Forum,[187] in particular that of eliminating gender disparities in primary and secondary education by 2005, which have not been fully met, and to implement the United Nations Girls' Education Initiative as a means of reaching this goal, and calls for the implementation of and reaffirms the commitments contained in the Education for All goals and the Millennium Development Goals, particularly those related to gender and education;

4. *Calls upon* all States to place enhanced emphasis on quality education for the girl child, including catch-up and literacy education for those who did not receive formal education, to promote access to skills and entrepreneurial training for young women and to tackle male and female stereotypes in order to ensure that young women entering the labour market have opportunities to obtain full and productive employment and decent work;

5. *Calls upon* States and the international community to recognize the right to education on the basis of equal opportunity and non-discrimination by making primary education compulsory and available free to all children, ensuring that all children have access to education of good quality, as well as making secondary education generally available and accessible to all, in particular through the progressive introduction of free education, bearing in mind that special measures to ensure equal access, including affirmative action, contribute to achieving equal opportunity and combating exclusion, and ensuring school attendance, in particular for girls and children from low-income families;

6. *Stresses* the importance of a substantive assessment of the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action[181] with a life cycle perspective so as to identify gaps and obstacles in the implementation process and to develop further actions for the achievement of the goals of the Platform for Action;

7. *Calls upon* all States and international and non-governmental organizations, individually and collectively, to implement further the Beijing Platform for Action, in particular the strategic objectives relating to the girl child, and the further actions and initiatives to implement the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action,[188] and to mobilize all necessary resources and support in order to achieve the goals and strategic objectives and actions set out in the Beijing Declaration[180] and Platform for Action;

8. *Calls upon* all States to take measures to address the obstacles that continue to affect the achievement of the goals set forth in the Beijing Platform for Action, as contained in paragraph 33 of the further actions and initiatives, where appropriate, including the strengthening of national mechanisms to implement policies and programmes for the girl child and, in some cases, to enhance coordination among responsible institutions for the realization of the human rights of girls, as indicated in the further actions and initiatives;

9. *Urges* States to strengthen efforts to urgently eradicate all forms of discrimination against women and girls, and, where applicable, to remain dedicated to the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Optional Protocol thereto;[189]

10. *Also urges* States to fulfil the pledges that they made at the Fourth World Conference on Women and at the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly to modify or abolish remaining laws that discriminate against women and girls;

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[188] Resolution S-23/3, annex.

[189] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2131, No. 20378.

11. *Further urges* States to improve the situation of girl children living in poverty, deprived of nutrition, water and sanitation facilities, with limited or no access to basic physical and mental health-care services, shelter, education, participation and protection, taking into account that, while a severe lack of goods and services hurts every human being, it is most threatening and harmful to the girl child, leaving her unable to enjoy her rights, to reach her full potential and to participate as a full member of society;

12. *Urges* States to ensure that the applicable requirements of the International Labour Organization for the employment of girls and boys are respected and effectively enforced and that girls who are employed have equal access to decent work, and equal payment and remuneration, are protected from economic exploitation, discrimination, sexual harassment, violence and abuse in the workplace, are aware of their rights and have access to formal and non-formal education, skills development and vocational training, and further urges States to develop gender-sensitive measures, including national action plans, where appropriate, to eliminate the worst forms of child labour, including commercial sexual exploitation, slavery-like practices, forced and bonded labour, trafficking and hazardous forms of child labour;

13. *Calls upon* States to take all measures necessary to ensure the right of girls to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health, including sexual and reproductive health, and to develop sustainable health systems and social services;

14. *Urges* all States to promote gender equality and equal access to basic social services, such as education, nutrition, birth registration, health care, including sexual and reproductive health, vaccinations and protection from diseases representing the major causes of mortality, and to mainstream a gender perspective in all development policies and programmes, including those relating to children as well as those specific to the girl child;

15. *Calls upon* States to take appropriate measures to address the root factors of child and forced marriages, including by undertaking educational activities to raise awareness regarding the negative aspects of such practices, and to strengthen existing legislation and policies with a view to providing better promotion and protection of the rights of the child, in particular the girl child;

16. *Urges* all States to enact and strictly enforce laws to ensure that marriage is only entered into with the free and full consent of the intending spouses, and, in addition, to enact and strictly enforce laws concerning the minimum legal age of consent and the minimum age for marriage and raise the minimum age for marriage where necessary, and to develop and implement comprehensive policies, plans of action and programmes for the survival, protection, development and advancement of the girl child in order to promote and protect the full enjoyment of her human rights and to ensure equal opportunities for girls, including by making such plans an integral part of her total development process;

17. *Calls upon* States, with the support of international organizations and civil society, including non-governmental organizations, to generate social support for the enforcement of laws on the minimum legal age for marriage, in particular by providing educational opportunities for girls;

18. *Also calls upon* States, with the support of international organizations, civil society and non-governmental organizations, as appropriate, to develop policies and programmes, giving priority to formal and informal education programmes that support girls and enable them to acquire knowledge, develop self-esteem and take responsibility for their own lives, and to place special focus on programmes to educate women and men, especially parents, about the importance of girls' physical and mental health and well-being, including the elimination of discrimination against girls in child and forced marriages;

19. *Urges* all States to enact and enforce legislation to protect girls from all forms of violence and exploitation, including female infanticide and prenatal sex selection, female genital mutilation, rape, domestic violence, incest, sexual abuse, sexual exploitation, child prostitution and child pornography, trafficking and forced migration, forced labour, and forced marriage, as well as marriage under legal age, and to develop age-appropriate safe and confidential programmes and medical, social and psychological support services to assist girls who are subjected to violence and discrimination;

20. *Urges* States to complement punitive measures with educational activities designed to promote a process of consensus towards the abandonment of harmful practices such as female genital mutilation and to provide appropriate services for those affected by the practices;

21. *Calls upon* all States to enact and enforce the necessary legislative or other measures, in cooperation with relevant stakeholders, to prevent the distribution over the Internet of child pornography, including depictions of child sexual abuse, ensuring that adequate mechanisms are in place to enable reporting and removal of such material and that its creators, distributors and collectors are prosecuted as appropriate;

22. *Urges* States to formulate comprehensive, multidisciplinary and coordinated national plans, programmes or strategies to eliminate all forms of discrimination and violence against women and girls, which should be widely disseminated and should provide targets and timetables for implementation, as well as effective domestic enforcement procedures through the establishment of monitoring mechanisms involving all parties concerned, including consultations with women's organizations, giving attention to the recommendations relating to the girl child of the Special Rapporteurs of the Human Rights Council on violence against

women, its causes and consequences, and on trafficking in persons, especially women and children, of the Secretary-General in his in-depth study on all forms of violence against women[190] and of the independent expert in his study on violence against children;[191]

23. *Also urges* States to ensure that the right of children to express themselves and to participate in all matters affecting them, in accordance with their age and maturity, is fully and equally enjoyed by girls;

24. *Further urges* States to involve girls, including girls with special needs, and their representative organizations, in decision-making processes, as appropriate, and to include them as full and active partners in identifying their own needs and in developing, planning, implementing and assessing policies and programmes to meet those needs;

25. *Recognizes* that a considerable number of girl children are particularly vulnerable, including orphans, children living on the street, internally displaced and refugee children, children affected by trafficking and sexual and economic exploitation, children living with HIV and AIDS, and children who are incarcerated who live without parental support, and therefore urges States, with the support of the international community, where relevant, to take appropriate measures to address the needs of such children by implementing national policies and strategies to build and strengthen governmental, community and family capacities to provide a supportive environment for such children, including by providing appropriate counselling and psychosocial support, and ensuring their enrolment in school and access to shelter, good nutrition and health and social services on an equal basis with other children;

26. *Encourages* States to promote actions, including through bilateral and multilateral technical cooperation and financial assistance, for the social reintegration of children in difficult situations, in particular girls, considering, inter alia, views, skills and capacities that those children have developed in the conditions in which they lived and, where appropriate, with their meaningful participation;

27. *Urges* all States and the international community to respect, promote and protect the rights of the girl child, taking into account the particular vulnerabilities of the girl child in pre-conflict, conflict and post-conflict situations, and further urges States to take special measures for the protection of girls, in particular to protect them from sexually transmitted infections, including HIV infection, gender-based violence, including rape, sexual abuse and sexual exploitation, torture, abduction and forced labour, paying special attention to refugee and displaced girls, and to take into account their special needs in the delivery of humanitarian assistance and disarmament, demobilization, rehabilitation assistance and reintegration processes;

28. *Deplores* all cases of sexual exploitation and abuse of women and children, especially girls, in humanitarian crises, including those cases involving humanitarian workers and peacekeepers, and urges States to take effective measures to address gender-based violence in humanitarian emergencies and to make all possible efforts to ensure that their laws and institutions are adequate to prevent, promptly investigate and prosecute acts of gender-based violence;

29. *Also deplores* all acts of sexual exploitation, abuse of and trafficking in women and children by military, police and civilian personnel involved in United Nations operations, welcomes the efforts undertaken by United Nations agencies and peacekeeping operations to implement a zero-tolerance policy in this regard, and requests the Secretary-General and personnel-contributing countries to continue to take all appropriate action necessary to combat these abuses by such personnel, including through the full implementation without delay of those measures adopted in the relevant General Assembly resolutions based on recommendations of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations;[192]

30. *Calls upon* Member States to devise, enforce and strengthen effective child- and youth-sensitive measures to combat, eliminate and prosecute all forms of trafficking in women and girls, including for sexual and economic exploitation, as part of a comprehensive anti-trafficking strategy within wider efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls, including by taking effective measures against the criminalization of girls who are victims of exploitation and ensuring that girls who have been exploited receive access to the necessary psychosocial support;

31. *Calls upon* Governments, civil society, including the media, and non-governmental organizations to promote human rights education and full respect for and the enjoyment of the human rights of the girl child, inter alia, through the translation, production and dissemination of age-appropriate and gender-sensitive information material on those rights to all sectors of society, in particular to children;

32. *Requests* the Secretary-General, as Chairman of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination, to ensure that all organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, individually and collectively, in particular the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the World Food Programme, the United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Development Fund for Women, the World

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[190] A/61/122 and Add.1 and Add.1/Corr.1.

[191] See A/61/299 and A/62/209.

[192] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 19* (A/59/19/Rev.1).

Health Organization, the United Nations Development Programme, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the International Labour Organization, take into account the rights and the particular needs of the girl child in country programmes of cooperation in accordance with national priorities, including through the United Nations Development Assistance Framework;

33. *Requests* all human rights treaty bodies and the human rights mechanisms of the Human Rights Council, including the special procedures, to adopt regularly and systematically a gender perspective in the implementation of their mandates and to include in their reports information on the qualitative analysis of violations of the human rights of women and girls, and encourages the strengthening of cooperation and coordination in that regard;

34. *Requests* States to ensure that, in all policies and programmes designed to provide comprehensive HIV and AIDS prevention, treatment, care and support, particular attention and support is given to the girl child at risk, infected with or affected by HIV, including pregnant girls and young and adolescent mothers, as part of the global effort to scale up significantly towards achieving the goal of universal access to comprehensive prevention, treatment, care and support by 2010;

35. *Invites* States to promote initiatives aimed at reducing the prices of antiretroviral drugs, especially second-line drugs, available to the girl child, including bilateral and private sector initiatives as well as initiatives on a voluntary basis taken by groups of States, including those based on innovative financing mechanisms that contribute to the mobilization of resources for social development, including those that aim to provide further access to drugs at affordable prices to developing countries on a sustainable and predictable basis, and in this regard takes note of the International Drug Purchase Facility, UNITAID;

36. *Calls upon* all States to integrate food and nutritional support with the goal that children, especially girl children, have access at all times to sufficient, safe and nutritious food to meet their dietary needs and food preferences, for an active and healthy life, as part of a comprehensive response to HIV and AIDS and other communicable diseases;

37. *Urges* States and the international community to increase resources at all levels, particularly in the education and health sectors, to enable young people, especially girls, to gain the knowledge, attitudes and skills that they need to prevent HIV infection and early pregnancy and to enjoy the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, including sexual and reproductive health;

38. *Stresses* the need to strengthen the commitment of States and the United Nations system in their responsibility to mainstream the promotion and protection of the rights of the child, in particular the girl child, in the development agenda at the national and international levels;

39. *Urges* States, the international community, the relevant United Nations entities, civil society and international financial institutions to continue to actively support, through the allocation of increased financial resources, targeted innovative programmes that address ending female genital mutilation and developing and providing education programmes, such as the United Nations Population Fund-United Nations Children's Fund joint programme on accelerating the abandonment of female genital mutilation, and sensitization workshops on the dire consequences of this harmful practice for the health of the girl, and to provide training programmes for those who perform the harmful procedure so that they may adopt an alternative profession;

40. *Welcomes* the commitment of ten United Nations agencies, in their joint statement of 27 February 2008, to continue working towards the elimination of female genital mutilation, by, inter alia, providing technical and financial assistance, and stresses that a common coordinated approach that promotes positive social change at the community, national and international levels could lead to female genital mutilation being abandoned within a generation, with some of the main achievements being obtained by 2015, in line with the Millennium Development Goals;

41. *Calls upon* States to strengthen the capacity of national health systems, and in this regard calls upon the international community to assist national efforts, including by allocation of adequate resources in order to provide essential services needed to prevent obstetric fistula and to treat those cases that occur by providing the continuum of services, including family planning, prenatal and post-natal care, skilled birth attendance, emergency obstetric care and post-partum care, to adolescent girls, including those living in poverty and in underserved rural areas where obstetric fistula is most common;

42. *Calls upon* States and the international community to create an environment in which the well-being of the girl child is ensured, inter alia, by cooperating, supporting and participating in global efforts for poverty eradication at the global, regional and country levels, recognizing that strengthened availability and effective allocation of resources are required at all levels, in order to ensure that all the internationally agreed development and poverty eradication goals, including those set out in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[193] are realized within their time framework, and reaffirming that investment in children, particularly girls, and the realization of their rights are among the most effective ways to eradicate poverty;

43. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution, including an emphasis

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[193] See resolution 55/2.

on ending child and forced marriages, using information provided by Member States, the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations, with a view to assessing the impact of the present resolution on the well-being of the girl child.

RESOLUTION 64/146

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/435 and Corr.1, para. 19)[194]

64/146. Rights of the child

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming all its previous resolutions on the rights of the child in their entirety, the most recent of which is resolution 63/241 of 24 December 2008,

Emphasizing that the Convention on the Rights of the Child[195] must constitute the standard in the promotion and protection of the rights of the child, and bearing in mind the importance of the Optional Protocols to the Convention,[196] as well as other human rights instruments,

Reaffirming that the general principles of, inter alia, the best interests of the child, non-discrimination, participation and survival and development provide the framework for all actions concerning children, including adolescents,

Reaffirming also the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action,[197] the United Nations Millennium Declaration[198] and the outcome document of the twenty-seventh special session of the General Assembly on children, entitled "A world fit for children",[199] and recalling the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the Programme of Action,[200] the Dakar Framework for Action adopted at the World Education Forum,[201] the Declaration on Social Progress and Development,[202] the Universal Declaration on the Eradication of Hunger and Malnutrition,[203] the Declaration on the Right to Development[204] and the Declaration of the commemorative high-level plenary meeting devoted to the follow-up to the outcome of the special session on children, held in New York from 11 to 13 December 2007,[205]

Taking note with appreciation of the reports of the Secretary-General on progress made towards achieving the commitments set out in the outcome document of the twenty-seventh special session of the General Assembly[206] and on the status of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the issues addressed in Assembly resolution 63/241,[207] as well as the report of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict,[208] whose recommendations should be carefully studied, taking fully into account the views of Member States, and taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on children and armed conflict,[209]

Acknowledging the important role played by national governmental structures for children, including, where they exist, ministries and institutions in charge of child, family and youth issues and independent ombudspersons for children or other national institutions for the promotion and protection of the rights of the child,

Taking note with appreciation of the work to promote and protect the rights of the child carried out by all relevant organs, bodies, entities and organizations of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates, and relevant mandate holders and special procedures of the United Nations, as well as relevant regional organizations, where appropriate, and intergovernmental organizations, and recognizing the valuable role of civil society, including non-governmental organizations,

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[194] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Zimbabwe.

[195] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[196] Ibid., vols. 2171 and 2173, No. 27531.

[197] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[198] See resolution 55/2.

[199] Resolution S-27/2, annex.

[200] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6–12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[201] See United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Final Report of the World Education Forum, Dakar, Senegal, 26–28 April 2000* (Paris, 2000).

[202] See resolution 2542 (XXIV).

[203] *Report of the World Food Conference, Rome, 5–16 November 1974* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.75.II.A.3), chap. I.

[204] Resolution 41/128, annex.

[205] See resolution 62/88.

[206] A/64/285.

[207] A/64/172.

[208] A/64/254.

[209] A/63/785-S/2009/158 and Corr.1.

Profoundly concerned that the situation of children in many parts of the world has been negatively impacted by the world financial and economic crisis, and reaffirming that eradicating poverty continues to be the greatest global challenge facing the world today, recognizing its impact beyond the socio-economic context,

Profoundly concerned also that the situation of children in many parts of the world remains critical, in an increasingly globalized environment, as a result of the persistence of poverty, social inequality, inadequate social and economic conditions, pandemics, in particular HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis, environmental damage, natural disasters, armed conflict, foreign occupation, displacement, violence, terrorism, abuse, trafficking in children and their organs, all forms of exploitation, commercial sexual exploitation of children, child prostitution, child pornography and child sex tourism, neglect, illiteracy, hunger, intolerance, discrimination, racism, xenophobia, gender inequality, disability and inadequate legal protection, and convinced that urgent and effective national and international action is called for,

I

Implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Optional Protocols thereto

1. *Commemorates* the twentieth anniversary of the adoption of the Convention on the Rights of the Child[195] and the fiftieth anniversary of the adoption of the Declaration of the Rights of the Child,[210] which provided a foundation for the Convention, and takes this opportunity to call for the effective implementation of the Convention by all States parties to ensure that all children may fully enjoy all their human rights and fundamental freedoms;

2. *Reaffirms* paragraphs 1 to 8 of its resolution 63/241, and urges States that have not yet done so to become parties to the Convention and the Optional Protocols thereto[196] as a matter of priority and to implement them fully;

3. *Calls upon* States parties to withdraw reservations that are incompatible with the object and purpose of the Convention or the Optional Protocols thereto and to consider reviewing regularly other reservations with a view to withdrawing them in accordance with the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action;[197]

4. *Encourages* States parties, in implementing the provisions of the Convention and the Optional Protocols thereto, to take duly into account the recommendations, observations and general comments of the Committee on the Rights of the Child, including, inter alia, general comment No. 12 (2009) entitled "The right of the child to be heard";[211]

5. *Welcomes* actions of the Committee to monitor the implementation by State parties of the Convention, and notes with appreciation its actions to follow up on its concluding observations and recommendations, and in this regard underlines, in particular, the regional workshops and the participation of the Committee in national-level initiatives;

6. *Recalls* Human Rights Council resolution 10/14 of 26 March 2009 entitled "Implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Optional Protocols thereto";[212]

II

Promotion and protection of the rights of the child and non-discrimination against children

Non-discrimination

7. *Reaffirms* paragraphs 9 to 11 of its resolution 63/241, and calls upon States to ensure the enjoyment by children of all their civil, cultural, economic, political and social rights without discrimination of any kind;

Registration, family relations and adoption or other forms of alternative care

8. *Also reaffirms* paragraphs 12 to 16 of its resolution 63/241, and urges all States parties to intensify their efforts to comply with their obligations under the Convention on the Rights of the Child[195] to protect children in matters relating to registration, family relations and adoption or other forms of alternative care, and, in cases of international parental or familial child abduction, encourages States to facilitate, inter alia, the return of the child to the country in which he or she resided immediately before the removal or retention;

9. *Welcomes* the accomplishment of the Guidelines for the Alternative Care of Children[213] and the decision of the Human Rights Council, by its resolution 11/7 of 17 June 2009,[214] to submit them to the General Assembly for action;

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[210] See resolution 1386 (XIV).

[211] CRC/C/GC/12.

[212] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/64/53), chap. II, sect. A.

[213] Resolution 64/142, annex.

[214] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/64/53), chap. I.

Economic and social well-being of children, eradication of poverty, right to education, right to enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health and right to food

10. *Reaffirms* paragraphs 17 to 26 of its resolution 63/241, paragraphs 42 to 52 of its resolution 61/146 of 19 December 2006, on the theme of children and poverty, and paragraphs 37 to 42 of its resolution 60/231 of 23 December 2005, on the theme of children infected with and affected by HIV/AIDS, and calls upon all States and the international community to create an environment in which the well-being of the child is ensured, including by strengthening international cooperation in this field and by implementing their previous commitments relating to poverty eradication, the right to education, the right to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, including efforts to address the situation of children living with or affected by HIV/AIDS and to eliminate mother-to-child transmission of HIV, the right to food for all and the right to an adequate standard of living, including housing and clothing;

11. *Recognizes* the threat to the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, posed by the global financial and economic crisis, which is connected to multiple, interrelated global crises and challenges, such as the food crisis and continuing food insecurity, volatile energy and commodity prices and climate change, and calls upon States to address, in their response to this crisis, any impact on the full enjoyment of the rights of children;

Elimination of violence against children

12. *Reaffirms* paragraphs 27 to 32 of its resolution 63/241 and paragraphs 47 to 62 of its resolution 62/141 of 18 December 2007, on the theme of elimination of violence against children, condemns all forms of violence against children, and urges all States to implement the measures set out in paragraph 27 of its resolution 63/241;

13. *Welcomes* the appointment of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on violence against children, and encourages all States, requests United Nations entities and agencies and invites regional organizations and civil society, including non-governmental organizations, to cooperate with the Special Representative and provide support, including financial support, to her for the effective and independent performance of her mandate, as set out in resolution 62/141, and in promoting the further implementation of the recommendations of the United Nations study on violence against children,[215] while promoting and ensuring country ownership and national plans and programmes in this regard, and calls upon States and institutions concerned, and invites the private sector, to provide voluntary contributions for that purpose;

Promoting and protecting the rights of children, including children in particularly difficult situations

14. *Reaffirms* paragraphs 34 to 42 of its resolution 63/241, and calls upon all States to promote and protect all human rights of all children in particularly difficult situations and to implement programmes and measures that provide them with special protection and assistance, including access to health care, education and social services, as well as, where appropriate and feasible, voluntary repatriation, reintegration, family tracing and family reunification, in particular for children who are unaccompanied, and to ensure that the best interests of the child are accorded a primary consideration;

Children alleged to have infringed or recognized as having infringed penal law and children of persons alleged to have infringed or recognized as having infringed penal law

15. *Also reaffirms* paragraphs 43 to 47 of its resolution 63/241, and calls upon all States to respect and protect the rights of children alleged to have infringed or recognized as having infringed penal law, as well as children of persons alleged to have infringed or recognized as having infringed penal law;

Prevention and eradication of the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography

16. *Further reaffirms* paragraphs 48 to 50 of its resolution 63/241, and calls upon all States to prevent, criminalize, prosecute and punish all forms of sale of children, including for the purposes of transfer of organs of the child for profit, child slavery, commercial sexual exploitation of children, child prostitution and child pornography, with the aim of eradicating those practices and the use of the Internet and other information and communications technologies for these purposes, to combat the existence of a market that encourages such criminal practices and take measures to eliminate the demand that fosters them, as well as to address the needs of victims effectively and take effective measures against the criminalization of children who are victims of exploitation;

17. *Welcomes* the Third World Congress against Sexual Exploitation of Children and Adolescents, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 25 to 28 November 2008, and the Rio de Janeiro Declaration and Call for Action to Prevent and Stop Sexual Exploitation of Children and Adolescents;

18. *Calls upon* all States to enact and enforce necessary legislative or other measures, in cooperation with relevant stakeholders, to prevent the distribution over the Internet of child pornography and including depictions of child sexual abuse, ensuring that adequate mechanisms are in

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[215] See A/61/299 and A/62/209.

place to enable reporting and removal of such material and that its creators, distributors and collectors are prosecuted as appropriate;

Children affected by armed conflict

19. *Reaffirms* paragraphs 51 to 63 of its resolution 63/241, condemns in the strongest terms all violations and abuses committed against children affected by armed conflict, and in this regard urges all States and other parties to armed conflict that are engaged, in contravention of applicable international law, including humanitarian law, in recruitment and use of children, in patterns of killing and maiming of children and/or rape and other sexual violence against children, as well as in all other violations and abuses against children, to take time-bound and effective measures to end them, and urges all States, United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, other relevant international and regional organizations and civil society to continue to give serious attention to, and to protect and assist child victims of, all violations and abuses committed against children in situations of armed conflict, in accordance with international humanitarian law, including the First to Fourth Geneva Conventions;[216]

20. *Also reaffirms* the essential roles of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Human Rights Council for the promotion and protection of the rights and welfare of children, including children affected by armed conflict, notes the increasing role played by the Security Council in ensuring protection for children affected by armed conflict, and notes also the activities undertaken by the Peacebuilding Commission, within its mandate, in areas that promote and contribute to the enjoyment of the rights and welfare of children;

21. *Notes with appreciation* the steps taken regarding Security Council resolutions 1539 (2004) of 22 April 2004 and 1612 (2005) of 26 July 2005, the adoption of Council resolution 1882 (2009) on 4 August 2009 and the efforts of the Secretary-General to implement the monitoring and reporting mechanism on children and armed conflict in accordance with those resolutions, with the participation of and in cooperation with national Governments and relevant United Nations and civil society actors, including at the country level, requests the Secretary-General to ensure that information collected and communicated by the monitoring and reporting mechanism is accurate, objective, reliable and verifiable, and in this regard encourages the work and the deployment, as appropriate, of United Nations child protection advisers in peacekeeping operations and political and peacebuilding missions;

Child labour

22. *Reaffirms* paragraphs 64 to 80 of its resolution 63/241, on the theme of child labour,[217] and calls upon all States to translate into concrete action their commitment to the progressive and effective elimination of child labour that is likely to be hazardous or to interfere with the child's education or to be harmful to the child's health or physical, mental, spiritual, moral or social development and to eliminate immediately the worst forms of child labour;

23. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization entitled "Education for All: Global Monitoring Report 2009", which emphasizes the need to increase the quality of education as a way to attract and keep children in school, as a tool in the prevention and elimination of child labour, and calls upon all States to take fully into account the report of the International Labour Organization entitled "The end of child labour: within reach" and the global action plan endorsed by the Governing Body of the International Labour Office in 2006 in their national efforts to tackle child labour and to monitor progress towards meeting the target of eliminating the worst forms of child labour by 2016;

III

The right of the child to express his or her views freely in all matters affecting him or her

24. *Recognizes* that the child who is capable of forming his or her own views should be assured the right to express those views freely in all matters affecting him or her, the views of the child being given due weight in accordance with his or her age and maturity, referred to in the present resolution as "the right to be heard";[218]

25. *Reaffirms* that the general principle of participation forms part of the framework for the interpretation and implementation of all other rights incorporated in the Convention on the Rights of the Child;[195]

26. *Recognizes* that, in the exercise by the child of his or her right to be heard, States shall respect the responsibilities, rights and duties of parents or, where applicable, the members of the extended family or community, as provided for by local custom, legal guardians or other persons legally responsible for the child to provide, in a manner consistent with the age, maturity and evolving capacities of the child, appropriate direction and guidance;

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[216] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

[217] As defined by the Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138) and the Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182) of the International Labour Organization.

[218] As used in the present resolution, "the right to be heard" refers to the right laid down in article 12, paragraph 1, of the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

27. *Reaffirms* the international agreement on the 2015 target date for achieving universal primary education in all countries, emphasizes, recognizing the impact and interlinkage of poverty and education on the full enjoyment by children of the right to be heard and to participate, that literacy and universal access to free and compulsory primary education of good quality for all children are a key element in promoting the right of the child to be heard, and encourages international cooperation in this regard, including regional cooperation as well as South-South cooperation;

28. *Recognizes* that the free engagement of children in extracurricular activities, such as cultural, artistic, recreational, leisure, ecological and sports activities at the local and national levels, could develop the ability of children to express their views;

29. *Also recognizes* the key role that can be played by educational institutions and community-based organizations and projects, as well as by different local and national institutions, such as children's organizations and parliaments, in assuring the meaningful participation of children, and in this regard encourages States to ensure the institutionalization of children's participation and encourage the active consultation of children and the consideration of their views in all matters affecting them, in accordance with their age and maturity and their evolving capacities;

30. *Further recognizes* the role that can be played by the private sector, including the media, in promoting the participation and active consultation of children in issues affecting them, and stresses the importance of these actors taking into account the best interests of the child;

31. *Expresses deep concern* that, despite the recognition of children as rights holders entitled to be heard on all matters affecting them, children are seldom seriously consulted and involved in such matters owing to a variety of constraints and impediments and that the full implementation of this right in many parts of the world has yet to be fully realized;

32. *Recognizes* that the full enjoyment of the right of the child to be heard and to participate requires adults to adopt an appropriate child-centred attitude, listening to children and respecting their rights and individual points of view;

33. *Calls upon* all States:

(*a*) To assure that children are given the opportunity to be heard on all matters affecting them, without discrimination on any grounds, by adopting and/or continuing to implement regulations and arrangements that provide for and encourage, as appropriate, the participation of children in all settings, including within the family, in school and in their communities, and that are firmly anchored in laws and institutional codes and are regularly evaluated with regard to their effectiveness;

(*b*) To designate, establish or strengthen relevant governmental structures for children, including, where appropriate, ministers in charge of children's issues and independent ombudspersons for children, have mechanisms in place for allowing and promoting the involvement and participation of children in the formulation and implementation of public policies, in particular those designed to meet national goals and targets for children and adolescents, and ensure adequate and systematic training in the rights of the child for professional groups working with and for children;

(*c*) To involve children, as appropriate, in the planning, design, implementation and evaluation of the national plans of action set out in the document entitled "A world fit for children"[190] that relate to the rights of the child, in recognition of the role of the child as a core stakeholder in the process;

(*d*) To develop policies and effective mechanisms at the local and national levels to enable children to be heard and to participate safely and meaningfully in the monitoring and reporting processes related to the implementation of the Convention;

(*e*) To provide support to children and adolescents to enable them to form and register their own associations and other child- and adolescent-led initiatives, in conformity with national and international law;

(*f*) To ensure that funding for the participation of children is considered in resource allocation and that policies and programmes to facilitate the participation of children are institutionalized and fully implemented;

(*g*) To ensure the equal participation of girls, including adolescents, on the basis of non-discrimination and in partnership with boys, including adolescents, in the development of strategies and the implementation of action aimed at achieving gender equality, development, non-violence and peace;

(*h*) To support the integration, in a systematic manner, of the participation and safe and meaningful involvement of children in United Nations activities and processes that are related to the promotion and protection of the rights of the child;

(*i*) To support the participation of children in initiatives to prevent and respond to violence against children, including in the work of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on violence against children;

(*j*) To take measures to support the participation of children in the design and implementation of preventive and comprehensive anti-bullying policies;

(*k*) To address all the root causes preventing children from exercising their right to be heard and to be consulted on matters affecting them; inform children, parents, guardians, other caregivers and the general public about the rights of the child; and raise awareness of the importance and benefits of the participation of children in society, including through partnerships with civil society, the private sector and the media, while being attentive to their influence on children;

(*l*) To take appropriate measures to ensure the full realization of the right to education on the basis of equal opportunity for every child, including by providing accessible, free and compulsory primary education directed to the development of the personality, talents and abilities of the child to their fullest potential, in recognition of the importance of education to civic engagement by children and to their full enjoyment of the right to be heard and to participate in all matters affecting them;

(*m*) To develop and implement policies and programmes to promote the creation by public authorities, parents, guardians, other caregivers and other adults working with or for children of a safe and enabling environment based on trust, information-sharing, the capacity to listen and sound guidance that is conducive to the informed and voluntary participation of children, including in decision-making processes;

(*n*) To take all appropriate measures to promote the active involvement of parents, professionals and relevant authorities in the creation of opportunities for children to exercise their right to be heard within their everyday activities in all relevant settings, including by providing training in the necessary skills;

(*o*) To provide support to girls, including adolescents, if needed, to voice their views and for their views to be given due weight, and adopt measures to eliminate gender stereotypes that undermine and place severe limitations on girls in the enjoyment of their right to be heard;

(*p*) To ensure that child-sensitive procedures are made available to children and their representatives so that children have access to means of facilitating effective remedies for any breaches of any of their rights arising from the Convention through independent advice, advocacy and complaint procedures, including justice mechanisms, and that their views are heard when they are involved or their interests are concerned in judicial or administrative procedures in a manner consistent with the procedural rules of national law;

(*q*) To ensure that, when the necessary measures are taken to prevent and punish the wrongful removal of children who are subjected to enforced disappearance, of children whose father, mother or legal guardian is subjected to enforced disappearance or of children born during the captivity of a mother subjected to enforced disappearance, in accordance with legal procedures and applicable international agreements, the right of the child to be heard is respected, and that the best interests of the child are a primary consideration;

(*r*) To encourage and enable children affected by natural and man-made disasters and complex emergencies, in particular adolescents, to participate in analysing their situations and future prospects in crisis, post-crisis and transition processes, while ensuring that such participation is in accordance with their age, maturity and evolving capacities and is consistent with the best interests of the child and recognizing that appropriate care needs to be taken to protect children from exposure to situations that are likely to be traumatic or harmful;

(*s*) To take measures to ensure the enjoyment of the right to be heard by children belonging to minorities and/or vulnerable groups, including migrant children and indigenous children within their cultural values or ethnic identities;

(*t*) To adopt measures, including providing or promoting the use of accessible means, modes and formats of communication, to facilitate the enjoyment of the right to be heard by children with disabilities;

IV

Follow-up

34. *Decides:*

(*a*) To request the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session a comprehensive report on the rights of the child containing information on the status of the Convention on the Rights of the Child[195] and the issues addressed in the present resolution, with a focus on implementing child rights in early childhood;

(*b*) To request the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict to continue to submit reports to the General Assembly and the Human Rights Council on the activities undertaken in the discharge of her mandate, including information on her field visits and on the progress achieved and the challenges remaining on the children and armed conflict agenda;

(*c*) To request the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on violence against children to submit annual reports to the General Assembly and the Human Rights Council on the activities undertaken in the discharge of her mandate;

(*d*) To request the Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography to submit reports to the General Assembly and the Human Rights Council on the activities undertaken in the discharge of her mandate;

(*e*) To invite the Chair of the Committee on the Rights of the Child to present an oral report on the work of the Committee to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session as a way to enhance communication between the Assembly and the Committee;

(*f*) To invite all Member States, organizations of the United Nations system, non-governmental organizations and individuals to observe the twentieth anniversary of the adoption of the Convention;

(*g*) To continue its consideration of the question at its sixty-fifth session under the item entitled "Promotion and protection of the rights of children", focusing section III of the resolution on the rights of the child on implementing child rights in early childhood.

RESOLUTION 64/147

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2009, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/437, para. 26),[219] by a recorded vote of 127 to 1, with 54 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: **Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Israel, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe**

Against: **United States of America**

Abstaining: **Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tonga, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Vanuatu**

64/147. Inadmissibility of certain practices that contribute to fuelling contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance

The General Assembly,

Guided by the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[220] the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[221] the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination[222] and other relevant human rights instruments,

Recalling the provisions of Commission on Human Rights resolutions 2004/16 of 16 April 2004[223] and 2005/5 of 14 April 2005 [224] and relevant Human Rights Council resolutions, in particular resolution 7/34 of 28 March 2008,[225] as well as General Assembly resolutions 60/143 of 16 December 2005, 61/147 of 19 December 2006, 62/142 of 18 December 2007 and 63/162 of 18 December 2008 on this issue and resolutions 61/149 of 19 December 2006, 62/220 of 22 December 2007 and 63/242 of 24 December 2008 entitled "Global efforts for the total elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and the comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action",

Recalling also the Charter of the Nuremberg Tribunal and the Judgement of the Tribunal, which recognized, inter alia, the SS organization and all its integral parts, including the Waffen SS, as criminal and declared it responsible for many war crimes and crimes against humanity,

Recalling further the relevant provisions of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance on 8 September 2001,[226] in particular paragraph 2 of the Declaration and paragraph 86 of the Programme of Action, as well as the relevant provisions of the outcome document of the Durban Review Conference, of 24 April 2009,[227] in particular paragraphs 11 and 54,

Alarmed, in this regard, at the spread in many parts of the world of various extremist political parties, movements and groups, including neo-Nazis and skinhead groups, as well as similar extremist ideological movements,

Recalling that the sixty-fourth session of the General Assembly coincides with the sixty-fifth anniversary of victory in the Second World War,

1. *Reaffirms* the relevant provisions of the Durban Declaration[226] and of the outcome document of the Durban Review Conference,[227] in which States condemned the persistence and resurgence of neo-Nazism, neo-Fascism and violent nationalist ideologies based on racial and national

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[219] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Angola, Belarus, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Cape Verde, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Iraq, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Myanmar, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Russian Federation, Seychelles, South Africa, Sudan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Zimbabwe.

[220] Resolution 217 A (III).

[221] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[222] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 660, No. 9464.

[223] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2004, Supplement No. 3* (E/2004/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[224] Ibid., *2005, Supplement No. 3* and corrigenda (E/2005/23 and Corr.1 and 2), chap. II, sect. A.

[225] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-third Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/63/53), chap. II.

[226] See A/CONF.189/12 and Corr.1, chap. I.

[227] See A/CONF.211/8, chap. I.

prejudice and stated that those phenomena could never be justified in any instance or in any circumstances;

2. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, prepared in accordance with the request contained in General Assembly resolution 63/162;[228]

3. *Expresses its appreciation* to the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights for her commitment to maintain the fight against racism as one of the priority activities of her Office;

4. *Expresses deep concern* about the glorification of the Nazi movement and former members of the Waffen SS organization, including by erecting monuments and memorials and holding public demonstrations in the name of the glorification of the Nazi past, the Nazi movement and neo-Nazism, as well as by declaring or attempting to declare such members and those who fought against the anti-Hitler coalition and collaborated with the Nazi movement participants in national liberation movements;

5. *Expresses concern* at recurring attempts to desecrate or demolish monuments erected in remembrance of those who fought against Nazism during the Second World War, as well as to unlawfully exhume or remove the remains of such persons, and urges States in this regard to fully comply with their relevant obligations, inter alia, under article 34 of Additional Protocol I to the Geneva Conventions of 1949;[229]

6. *Notes with concern* the increase in the number of racist incidents in several countries and the rise of skinhead groups, which have been responsible for many of these incidents, as well as the resurgence of racist and xenophobic violence targeting members of ethnic, religious or cultural communities and national minorities, as observed by the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance in his latest report;

7. *Reaffirms* that such acts may be qualified to fall within the scope of activities described in article 4 of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination[222] and that they may represent a clear and manifest abuse of the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association as well as the rights to freedom of opinion and expression within the meaning of those rights as guaranteed by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[220] the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights[221] and the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination;

8. *Stresses* that the practices described above do injustice to the memory of the countless victims of crimes against humanity committed in the Second World War, in particular those committed by the SS organization and those who fought against the anti-Hitler coalition and collaborated with the Nazi movement, and poison the minds of young people, and that failure by States to effectively address such practices is incompatible with the obligations of States Members of the United Nations under its Charter and is incompatible with the goals and principles of the Organization;

9. *Also stresses* that such practices fuel contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and contribute to the spread and multiplication of various extremist political parties, movements and groups, including neo-Nazis and skinhead groups;

10. *Emphasizes* the need to take the measures necessary to put an end to the practices described above, and calls upon States to take more effective measures in accordance with international human rights law to combat those phenomena and the extremist movements, which pose a real threat to democratic values;

11. *Reaffirms*, in this regard, the particular importance of all forms of education, including human rights education, as a complement to legislative measures, as outlined by the Special Rapporteur in his report to the General Assembly;

12. *Emphasizes* the recommendation of the Special Rapporteur regarding the importance of history classes in teaching the dramatic events and human suffering that resulted from the ideologies of Nazism and Fascism, especially in view of the upcoming sixty-fifth anniversary of victory in the Second World War;

13. *Stresses* the importance of other positive measures and initiatives aimed at bringing communities together and providing them with space for genuine dialogue, such as round tables, working groups and seminars, including training seminars for State agents and media professionals, as well as awareness-raising activities, especially those initiated by civil society representatives which require continued State support;

14. *Underlines* the potentially positive role that relevant United Nations entities and programmes, in particular the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, can play in the aforementioned areas;

15. *Reaffirms* that, according to article 4 of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, States parties to that instrument are, inter alia, under the obligation:

(*a*) To condemn all propaganda and all organizations that are based on ideas of racial superiority or that attempt to justify or promote racial hatred and discrimination in any form;

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[228] See A/64/295.

[229] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1125, No. 17512.

(*b*) To undertake to adopt immediate and positive measures designed to eradicate all incitement to, or acts of, such discrimination with due regard to the principles embodied in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the rights expressly set forth in article 5 of the Convention;

(*c*) To declare as an offence punishable by law all dissemination of ideas based on racial superiority or hatred, and incitement to racial discrimination, as well as all acts of violence or incitement to such acts against any race or group of persons of another colour or ethnic origin, and also the provision of any assistance to racist activities, including the financing thereof;

(*d*) To declare illegal and prohibit organizations and organized and all other propaganda activities that promote and incite racial discrimination and to recognize participation in such organizations or activities as an offence punishable by law;

(*e*) To prohibit public authorities or public institutions, national or local, from promoting or inciting racial discrimination;

16. *Reaffirms also* that, as underlined in paragraph 13 of the outcome document of the Durban Review Conference, any advocacy of national, racial or religious hatred that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence should be prohibited by law, that the dissemination of ideas based on racial superiority, hatred, acts of violence or incitement to such acts shall be declared offences punishable by law, and that these prohibitions are consistent with freedom of opinion and expression;

17. *Underlines*, at the same time, the positive role that the exercise of the right to freedom of opinion and expression, as well as the full respect for the freedom to seek, receive and impart information, can play in combating racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

18. *Encourages* those States that have made reservations to article 4 of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination to give serious consideration to withdrawing such reservations as a matter of priority;

19. *Recalls* the request of the Commission on Human Rights in its resolution 2005/5[224] that the Special Rapporteur continue to reflect on this issue, make relevant recommendations in his future reports and seek and take into account in this regard the views of Governments and non-governmental organizations;

20. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur to prepare, for submission to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session and to the Human Rights Council, reports on the implementation of the present resolution based on the views collected in accordance with the request of the Commission on Human Rights, as recalled by the Assembly in paragraph 19 above;

21. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Governments that have provided information to the Special Rapporteur in the course of the preparation of his report to the General Assembly;

22. *Encourages* Governments and non-governmental organizations to cooperate fully with the Special Rapporteur in the exercise of the tasks outlined in paragraph 19 above;

23. *Decides* to remain seized of the issue.

RESOLUTION 64/148

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2009, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/437, para. 26),[230] by a recorded vote of 128 to 13, with 43 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Australia, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Germany, Israel, Italy, Marshall Islands, Netherlands, Palau, Poland, Romania, United States of America

Abstaining: Albania, Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, New Zealand, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tonga, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Vanuatu

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[230] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by the Russian Federation, and the Sudan (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China).

64/148. Global efforts for the total elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and the comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 52/111 of 12 December 1997, in which it decided to convene the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, and its resolutions 56/266 of 27 March 2002, 57/195 of 18 December 2002, 58/160 of 22 December 2003, 59/177 of 20 December 2004 and 60/144 of 16 December 2005, which guided the comprehensive follow-up to and effective implementation of the World Conference, and in this regard underlining the importance of their full and effective implementation,

Welcoming the outcome of the Durban Review Conference convened in Geneva from 20 to 24 April 2009 within the framework of the General Assembly in accordance with its resolution 61/149 of 19 December 2006,

Noting the approaching commemoration of the tenth anniversary of the adoption of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action,[231]

Recalling all of the relevant resolutions and decisions of the Commission on Human Rights and of the Human Rights Council on this subject, and calling for their implementation to ensure the successful implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action,

Noting Human Rights Council decision 3/103 of 8 December 2006,[232] by which, heeding the decision and instruction of the World Conference, the Council established the Ad Hoc Committee of the Human Rights Council on the Elaboration of Complementary Standards,

Bearing in mind the responsibility and obligations of the Human Rights Council emanating from the outcome of the Durban Review Conference,[233]

Reiterating that all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights and have the potential to contribute constructively to the development and well-being of their societies, and that any doctrine of racial superiority is scientifically false, morally condemnable, socially unjust and dangerous and must be rejected, together with theories that attempt to determine the existence of separate human races,

Convinced that racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance manifest themselves in a differentiated manner for women and girls and may be among the factors leading to a deterioration in their living conditions, poverty, violence, multiple forms of discrimination and the limitation or denial of their human rights, and recognizing the need to integrate a gender perspective into relevant policies, strategies and programmes of action against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance in order to address multiple forms of discrimination,

Underlining the primacy of political will, international cooperation and adequate funding at the national, regional and international levels needed to address all forms and manifestations of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance,

Alarmed at the increase in racist violence and xenophobic ideas in many parts of the world, in political circles, in the sphere of public opinion and in society at large, inter alia, as a result of the resurgent activities of associations established on the basis of racist and xenophobic platforms and charters, and the persistent use of those platforms and charters to promote or incite racist ideologies,

Underlining the importance of urgently eliminating continuing and violent trends involving racism and racial discrimination, and conscious that any form of impunity for crimes motivated by racist and xenophobic attitudes plays a role in weakening the rule of law and democracy, tends to encourage the recurrence of such crimes and requires resolute action and cooperation for its eradication,

Welcoming the continued commitment of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to profile and increase the visibility of the struggle against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, and recognizing the need for the High Commissioner to make this a cross-cutting issue in the activities and programmes of her Office,

I

Outcomes of the 2001 World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance and the 2009 Durban Review Conference

1. *Reaffirms* that the General Assembly is the highest intergovernmental mechanism for the formulation and appraisal of policy on matters relating to the economic, social and related fields, in accordance with Assembly resolution 50/227 of 24 May 1996, and that, together with the Human Rights Council, it shall constitute an intergovernmental process for the comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action;[231]

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[231] See A/CONF.189/12 and Corr.1, chap. I.

[232] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/62/53), chap. II, sect. B.

[233] See A/CONF.211/8.

2. *Expresses its satisfaction* that the Durban Review Conference and Preparatory Committee for the Conference provided for the active participation of Member States and Observers of the United Nations, the specialized agencies, United Nations funds and programmes, various intergovernmental organizations as well as the major groups representing all regions of the world, at the highest level, and notes the contributions of non-governmental organizations in the preparation for the Durban Review Conference, which were broad-based, regionally balanced and consistent with the objectives of the Conference;

3. *Emphasizes* that the basic responsibility for effectively combating racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance lies with States, and to this end stresses that States have the primary responsibility to ensure full and effective implementation of all commitments and recommendations contained in the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action as well as the outcome of the Durban Review Conference and, in this regard, welcomes the steps taken by numerous Governments;

4. *Calls upon* all States that have not yet elaborated their national action plans on combating racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance to comply with their commitments undertaken at the World Conference;

5. *Calls upon* all States to formulate and implement without delay, at the national, regional and international levels, policies and plans of action to combat racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, including their gender-based manifestations;

6. *Urges* States to support the activities of existing regional bodies or centres that combat racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance in their respective regions, and recommends the establishment of such bodies in all regions where they do not exist;

7. *Calls upon* those States that have not yet done so to consider signing and ratifying or acceding to the instruments enumerated in paragraph 78 of the Durban Programme of Action, including the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families of 1990;[234]

8. *Emphasizes* the fundamental and complementary role of national human rights institutions, regional bodies or centres and civil society, working jointly with States towards the elimination of all forms of racism and, in particular, towards the achievement of the objectives of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action;

9. *Recognizes* the fundamental role of civil society in the fight against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, in particular in assisting States to develop regulations and strategies, in taking measures and action against such forms of discrimination and through follow-up implementation;

10. *Reaffirms its commitment* to eliminating all forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and other forms of related intolerance against indigenous peoples, and in this regard notes the attention paid to the objectives of combating prejudice and eliminating discrimination and promoting tolerance, understanding and good relations among indigenous peoples and all other segments of society in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples;[235]

11. *Acknowledges* that the World Conference, which was the third world conference against racism, was significantly different from the previous two conferences, as evidenced by the inclusion in its title of two important components relating to contemporary forms of racism, namely, xenophobia and related intolerance;

12. *Also acknowledges* that the outcomes of the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance and the Durban Review Conference are on an equal footing with the outcomes of all the major United Nations conferences, summits and special sessions in the human rights and social fields;

13. *Recalls* that 2011 will mark the tenth anniversary of the World Conference, and decides to call for a one-day plenary event to commemorate the ten-year anniversary during the high-level segment of the General Assembly to be devoted to the elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance during its sixty-sixth session, in 2011, the modalities of which will be finalized during the sixty-fifth session;

14. *Welcomes* the adoption of the laudable initiative led by the States members of the Caribbean Community and other Member States for the establishment of a permanent memorial at the United Nations to the victims of slavery and the transatlantic slave trade as a contribution towards the fulfilment of paragraph 101 of the Durban Declaration, expresses its appreciation for contributions made to the voluntary fund established in this regard, and urges other countries to contribute to the fund;

15. *Expresses its appreciation* for the continuing work of the mechanisms mandated to follow up the World Conference;

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[234] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2220, No. 39481.

[235] Resolution 61/295, annex.

16. *Decides* that the implementation of the outcome of the Durban Review Conference shall be undertaken in the same framework and by the same mechanisms as the outcome of the World Conference;

17. *Acknowledges* the centrality of resource mobilization, effective global partnership and international cooperation in the context of paragraphs 157 and 158 of the Durban Programme of Action for the successful realization of commitments undertaken at the World Conference, and to this end emphasizes the importance of the mandate of the group of independent eminent experts on the implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, especially in mobilizing the political will necessary for the successful implementation of the Declaration and Programme of Action;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the resources necessary for the effective fulfilment of the mandates of the Intergovernmental Working Group on the Effective Implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, the Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent, the group of independent eminent experts on the implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action and the Ad Hoc Committee on the Elaboration of Complementary Standards;

19. *Expresses concern* at the increasing incidence of racism in various sporting events, while noting with appreciation the efforts made by some governing bodies of the various sporting codes to combat racism, and in this regard invites all international sporting bodies to promote, through their national, regional and international federations, a world of sport free from racism and racial discrimination;

20. *Welcomes*, in this context, the initiative of the Fédération internationale de football association to introduce a visible theme on non-racism in football, and invites the Fédération to continue with this initiative at the 2010 World Cup soccer tournament to be held in South Africa;

21. *Acknowledges* the guidance and leadership role of the Human Rights Council, and encourages it to continue overseeing the implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action and the outcome of the Durban Review Conference;

22. *Requests* the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to continue to provide the Human Rights Council with all the necessary support in order for it to achieve its objectives in this regard;

II

General principles

23. *Acknowledges* that no derogation from the prohibition of racial discrimination, genocide, the crime of apartheid or slavery is permitted, as defined in the obligations under the relevant human rights instruments;

24. *Expresses its profound concern about and its unequivocal condemnation* of all forms of racism and racial discrimination, including related acts of racially motivated violence, xenophobia and intolerance, as well as propaganda activities and organizations that attempt to justify or promote racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance in any form;

25. *Expresses deep concern* at inadequate responses to emerging and resurgent forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, and urges States to adopt measures to address these scourges vigorously with a view to preventing their practice and protecting victims;

26. *Stresses* that States and international organizations have a responsibility to ensure that measures taken in the struggle against terrorism do not discriminate in purpose or effect on grounds of race, colour, descent or national or ethnic origin, and urges all States to rescind or refrain from all forms of racial profiling;

27. *Recognizes* that States should implement and enforce appropriate and effective legislative, judicial, regulatory and administrative measures to prevent and protect against acts of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, thereby contributing to the prevention of human rights violations;

28. *Also recognizes* that racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance occur on the grounds of race, colour, descent or national or ethnic origin and that victims can suffer multiple or aggravated forms of discrimination based on other related grounds, such as sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, social origin, property, birth or other status;

29. *Reaffirms* that any advocacy of national, racial or religious hatred that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence shall be prohibited by law;

30. *Emphasizes* that it is the responsibility of States to adopt effective measures to combat criminal acts motivated by racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, including measures to ensure that such motivations are considered an aggravating factor for the purposes of sentencing, to prevent those crimes from going unpunished and to ensure the rule of law;

31. *Urges* all States to review and, where necessary, revise their immigration laws, policies and practices so that they are free of racial discrimination and compatible with their obligations under international human rights instruments;

32. *Calls upon* all States, in accordance with the commitments undertaken in paragraph 147 of the Durban

Programme of Action,[231] to take all measures necessary to combat incitement to violence motivated by racial hatred, including through the misuse of print, audio-visual and electronic media and new communication technologies, and, in collaboration with service providers, to promote the use of such technologies, including the Internet, to contribute to the fight against racism, in conformity with international standards of freedom of expression and taking all measures necessary to guarantee that right;

33. *Encourages* all States to include in their educational curricula and social programmes at all levels, as appropriate, knowledge of and tolerance and respect for all cultures, civilizations, religions, peoples and countries, as well as information on the follow-up to and implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action;

34. *Stresses* the responsibility of States to mainstream a gender perspective in the design and development of prevention, education and protection measures aimed at the eradication of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance at all levels, to ensure that they effectively target the distinct situations of women and men;

III

International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination

35. *Reaffirms* that universal adherence to and full implementation of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination[236] are of paramount importance for the fight against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, and for the promotion of equality and non-discrimination in the world;

36. *Expresses grave concern* that universal ratification of the Convention has not yet been reached, despite commitments under the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action,[231] and calls upon those States that have not yet done so to accede to the Convention as a matter of urgency;

37. *Urges*, in the above context, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to maintain on its website and issue regular updates on a list of countries that have not yet ratified the Convention and to encourage those countries to ratify it at the earliest;

38. *Expresses concern* at the serious delays in the submission of overdue reports to the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, which impede the effectiveness of the Committee, makes a strong appeal to all States parties to the Convention to comply with their treaty obligations, and reaffirms the importance of the provision of technical assistance to requesting countries in the preparation of their reports to the Committee;

39. *Invites* States parties to the Convention to ratify the amendment to article 8 of the Convention on the financing of the Committee, and calls for adequate additional resources from the regular budget of the United Nations to enable the Committee to discharge its mandate fully;

40. *Urges* all States parties to the Convention to intensify their efforts to implement the obligations that they have accepted under article 4 of the Convention, with due regard to the principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[237] and article 5 of the Convention;

41. *Recalls* that the Committee holds that the prohibition of the dissemination of ideas based on racial superiority or racial hatred is compatible with the right to freedom of opinion and expression as outlined in article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and in article 5 of the Convention;

42. *Welcomes* the emphasis placed by the Committee on the importance of follow-up to the World Conference and the measures recommended to strengthen the implementation of the Convention as well as the functioning of the Committee;

IV

Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, and follow-up to his visits

43. *Takes note* of the work done by the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, and welcomes Human Rights Council resolution 7/34 of 28 March 2008,[238] by which the Council decided to extend the mandate of the Special Rapporteur for a period of three years;

44. *Also takes note* of the reports of the Special Rapporteur,[239] and encourages Member States and other relevant stakeholders to consider implementing the recommendations contained in the reports;

45. *Reiterates its call* to all Member States, intergovernmental organizations, relevant organizations of the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations to cooperate fully with the Special Rapporteur, and calls upon States to consider responding favourably to his requests for

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[236] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 660, No. 9464.

[237] Resolution 217 A (III).

[238] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-third Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/63/53), chap. II.

[239] See A/64/271 and A/64/295.

visits so as to enable him to fulfil his mandate fully and effectively;

46. *Recognizes with deep concern* the increase in anti-Semitism, Christianophobia and Islamophobia in various parts of the world, as well as the emergence of racial and violent movements based on racism and discriminatory ideas directed against Arab, Christian, Jewish and Muslim communities, as well as all religious communities, communities of people of African descent, communities of people of Asian descent, communities of indigenous people and other communities;

47. *Encourages* closer collaboration between the Special Rapporteur and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, in particular the Anti-Discrimination Unit;

48. *Urges* the High Commissioner to provide States, at their request, with advisory services and technical assistance to enable them to implement fully the recommendations of the Special Rapporteur;

49. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the Special Rapporteur with all the human and financial assistance necessary to carry out his mandate efficiently, effectively and expeditiously and to enable him to submit a report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session;

50. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur to continue giving particular attention to the negative impact of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance on the full enjoyment of civil, cultural, economic, political and social rights by national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities, immigrant populations, asylum-seekers and refugees;

51. *Invites* Member States to demonstrate greater commitment to fighting racism in sport by conducting educational and awareness-raising activities and by strongly condemning the perpetrators of racist incidents, in cooperation with national and international sports organizations;

V

General

52. *Recommends* that the meetings of the Human Rights Council focusing on the follow-up to the World Conference and the implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action[231] be scheduled in a manner that allows broad participation and that avoids overlap with the meetings devoted to the consideration of this item in the General Assembly;

53. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, with recommendations;

54. *Decides* to remain seized of this important matter at its sixty-fifth session under the item entitled "Elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance".

RESOLUTION 64/149

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/438, para. 19)[240]

64/149. Universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the importance, for the effective guarantee and observance of human rights, of the universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and embodied in the International Covenants on Human Rights,[241] as well as in the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960,

Welcoming the progressive exercise of the right to self-determination by peoples under colonial, foreign or alien occupation and their emergence into sovereign statehood and independence,

Deeply concerned at the continuation of acts or threats of foreign military intervention and occupation that are threatening to suppress, or have already suppressed, the right to self-determination of peoples and nations,

Expressing grave concern that, as a consequence of the persistence of such actions, millions of people have been and are being uprooted from their homes as refugees and displaced persons, and emphasizing the urgent need for concerted international action to alleviate their condition,

Recalling the relevant resolutions regarding the violation of the right of peoples to self-determination and other human rights as a result of foreign military intervention, aggression and occupation, adopted by the Commission on Human Rights at its sixty-first[242] and previous sessions,

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[240] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Algeria, Angola, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Central African Republic, China, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Dominica, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ghana, Grenada, Guinea, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Mali, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Zimbabwe.

[241] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

Reaffirming its previous resolutions on the universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination, including resolution 63/163 of 18 December 2008,

Reaffirming also its resolution 55/2 of 8 September 2000, containing the United Nations Millennium Declaration, and recalling its resolution 60/1 of 16 September 2005, containing the 2005 World Summit Outcome, which, inter alia, upheld the right to self-determination of peoples under colonial domination and foreign occupation,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the right of peoples to self-determination,[243]

1. *Reaffirms* that the universal realization of the right of all peoples, including those under colonial, foreign and alien domination, to self-determination is a fundamental condition for the effective guarantee and observance of human rights and for the preservation and promotion of such rights;

2. *Declares its firm opposition* to acts of foreign military intervention, aggression and occupation, since these have resulted in the suppression of the right of peoples to self-determination and other human rights in certain parts of the world;

3. *Calls upon* those States responsible to cease immediately their military intervention in and occupation of foreign countries and territories and all acts of repression, discrimination, exploitation and maltreatment, in particular the brutal and inhuman methods reportedly employed for the execution of those acts against the peoples concerned;

4. *Deplores* the plight of millions of refugees and displaced persons who have been uprooted as a result of the aforementioned acts, and reaffirms their right to return to their homes voluntarily in safety and honour;

5. *Requests* the Human Rights Council to continue to give special attention to the violation of human rights, especially the right to self-determination, resulting from foreign military intervention, aggression or occupation;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report on the question to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session under the item entitled "Right of peoples to self-determination".

RESOLUTION 64/150

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2009, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/438, para. 19),[244] by a recorded vote of 176 to 6, with 3 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland,

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[242] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2005, Supplement No. 3* and corrigenda (E/2005/23 and Corr.1 and 2), chap. II, sect. A.

[243] A/64/360.

[244] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, China, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe and Palestine.

United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Palau, United States of America

Abstaining: Cameroon, Canada, Tonga

64/150. The right of the Palestinian people to self-determination

The General Assembly,

Aware that the development of friendly relations among nations, based on respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples, is among the purposes and principles of the United Nations, as defined in the Charter,

Recalling, in this regard, its resolution 2625 (XXV) of 24 October 1970 entitled "Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations",

Bearing in mind the International Covenants on Human Rights,[245] the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[246] the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples[247] and the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted at the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[248]

Recalling the Declaration on the Occasion of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the United Nations,[249]

Recalling also the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[250]

Recalling further the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice on the *Legal Consequences of the Construction of a Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory*,[251] and noting in particular the reply of the Court, including on the right of peoples to self-determination, which is a right *erga omnes*,[252]

Recalling the conclusion of the Court, in its advisory opinion of 9 July 2004, that the construction of the wall by Israel, the occupying Power, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, along with measures previously taken, severely impedes the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination,[253]

Expressing the urgent need for the resumption of negotiations within the Middle East peace process, based on the relevant United Nations resolutions, the Madrid terms of reference, including the principle of land for peace, the Arab Peace Initiative[254] and the Quartet road map to a permanent two-State solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict,[255] and for the speedy achievement of a just, lasting and comprehensive peace settlement between the Palestinian and Israeli sides,

Stressing the need for respect for and preservation of the territorial unity, contiguity and integrity of all of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem,

Recalling its resolution 63/165 of 18 December 2008,

Affirming the right of all States in the region to live in peace within secure and internationally recognized borders,

1. *Reaffirms* the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination, including the right to their independent State of Palestine;

2. *Urges* all States and the specialized agencies and organizations of the United Nations system to continue to support and assist the Palestinian people in the early realization of their right to self-determination.

RESOLUTION 64/151

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2009, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/438, para. 19),[256] by a recorded vote of 126 to 53, with 4 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador,

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[245] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[246] Resolution 217 A (III).

[247] Resolution 1514 (XV).

[248] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[249] See resolution 50/6.

[250] See resolution 55/2.

[251] See A/ES-10/273 and Corr.1; see also *Legal Consequences of the Construction of a Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, Advisory Opinion, I.C.J. Reports 2004*, p. 136.

[252] See A/ES-10/273 and Corr.1, advisory opinion, para. 88; see also *Legal Consequences of the Construction of a Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, Advisory Opinion, I.C.J. Reports 2004*, p. 136.

[253] See A/ES-10/273 and Corr.1, advisory opinion, para. 122; see also *Legal Consequences of the Construction of a Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, Advisory Opinion, I.C.J. Reports 2004*, p. 136.

[254] A/56/1026-S/2002/932, annex II, resolution 14/221.

[255] S/2003/529, annex.

[256] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Angola, Belarus, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Honduras, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Myanmar, Namibia, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, Russian Federation, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam and Zimbabwe.

Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Fiji, Switzerland, Timor-Leste, Tonga

64/151. Use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination

The General Assembly,

Recalling all of its previous resolutions on the subject, including resolution 63/164 of 18 December 2008, and Human Rights Council resolution 10/11 of 26 March 2009,[257] as well as all resolutions adopted by the Commission on Human Rights in this regard,

Recalling also all of its relevant resolutions in which, inter alia, it condemned any State that permitted or tolerated the recruitment, financing, training, assembly, transit and use of mercenaries with the objective of overthrowing the Governments of States Members of the United Nations, especially those of developing countries, or of fighting against national liberation movements, and recalling further the relevant resolutions and international instruments adopted by the General Assembly, the Security Council, the Economic and Social Council and the Organization of African Unity, inter alia, the Organization of African Unity Convention for the elimination of mercenarism in Africa,[258] as well as by the African Union,[259]

Reaffirming the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations concerning the strict observance of the principles of sovereign equality, political independence, the territorial integrity of States, the self-determination of peoples, the non-use of force or of the threat of use of force in international relations and non-interference in affairs within the domestic jurisdiction of States,

Reaffirming also that, by virtue of the principle of self-determination, all peoples have the right freely to determine their political status and to pursue their economic, social and cultural development, and that every State has the duty to respect this right in accordance with the provisions of the Charter,

Reaffirming further the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,[260]

Alarmed and concerned at the danger that the activities of mercenaries constitute to peace and security in developing countries, in particular in Africa and in small States,

Deeply concerned at the loss of life, the substantial damage to property and the negative effects on the policy and economies of affected countries resulting from criminal mercenary activities,

Extremely alarmed and concerned about recent mercenary activities in some developing countries in various parts of the world, including in areas of armed conflict, and the threat they pose to the integrity of and respect for the constitutional order of the affected countries,

Convinced that, notwithstanding the way in which they are used or the form that they take to acquire some semblance of legitimacy, mercenaries or mercenary-related activities are a threat to peace, security and the self-determination of peoples and an obstacle to the enjoyment of all human rights by peoples,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Working Group on the use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination,[261] and expresses its

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[257] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/64/53), chap. II, sect. A.

[258] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1490, No. 25573.

[259] On 8 July 2002, the Organization of African Unity ceased to exist and, in its place, the African Union came into force on 9 July 2002.

[260] Resolution 2625 (XXV), annex.

[261] See A/64/311.

appreciation for the work of the experts of the Working Group;

2. *Reaffirms* that the use of mercenaries and their recruitment, financing and training are causes for grave concern to all States and violate the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations;

3. *Recognizes* that armed conflict, terrorism, arms trafficking and covert operations by third Powers, inter alia, encourage the demand for mercenaries on the global market;

4. *Urges once again* all States to take the steps necessary and to exercise the utmost vigilance against the menace posed by the activities of mercenaries and to take legislative measures to ensure that their territories and other territories under their control, as well as their nationals, are not used for the recruitment, assembly, financing, training and transit of mercenaries for the planning of activities designed to impede the right of peoples to self-determination, to destabilize or overthrow the Government of any State or to dismember or impair, totally or in part, the territorial integrity or political unity of sovereign and independent States conducting themselves in compliance with the right of peoples to self-determination;

5. *Requests* all States to exercise the utmost vigilance against any kind of recruitment, training, hiring or financing of mercenaries by private companies offering international military consultancy and security services, as well as to impose a specific ban on such companies intervening in armed conflicts or actions to destabilize constitutional regimes;

6. *Encourages* States that import the military assistance, consultancy and security services provided by private companies to establish regulatory national mechanisms for the registering and licensing of those companies in order to ensure that imported services provided by those private companies neither impede the enjoyment of human rights nor violate human rights in the recipient country;

7. *Calls upon* all States that have not yet done so to consider taking the action necessary to accede to or ratify the International Convention against the Recruitment, Use, Financing and Training of Mercenaries;[262]

8. *Welcomes* the cooperation extended by those countries that received a visit by the Working Group and the adoption by some States of national legislation that restricts the recruitment, assembly, financing, training and transit of mercenaries;

9. *Condemns* recent mercenary activities in developing countries in various parts of the world, in particular in areas of conflict, and the threat they pose to the integrity of and respect for the constitutional order of those countries and the exercise of the right of their peoples to self-determination, and stresses the importance for the Working Group of looking into sources and root causes, as well as the political motivations of mercenaries and for mercenary-related activities;

10. *Calls upon* States to investigate the possibility of mercenary involvement whenever and wherever criminal acts of a terrorist nature occur and to bring to trial those found responsible or to consider their extradition, if so requested, in accordance with domestic law and applicable bilateral or international treaties;

11. *Condemns* any form of impunity granted to perpetrators of mercenary activities and to those responsible for the use, recruitment, financing and training of mercenaries, and urges all States, in accordance with their obligations under international law, to bring them, without distinction, to justice;

12. *Calls upon* Member States, in accordance with their obligations under international law, to cooperate with and assist the judicial prosecution of those accused of mercenary activities in transparent, open and fair trials;

13. *Requests* the Working Group to continue the work already done by the previous Special Rapporteurs on the strengthening of the international legal framework for the prevention and sanction of the recruitment, use, financing and training of mercenaries, taking into account the proposal for a new legal definition of a mercenary drafted by the Special Rapporteur in his report to the Commission on Human Rights at its sixtieth session,[263] including the elaboration and presentation of concrete proposals on possible complementary and new standards aimed at filling existing gaps, as well as general guidelines or basic principles encouraging the further protection of human rights, in particular the right of peoples to self-determination, while facing current and emergent threats posed by mercenaries or mercenary-related activities;

14. *Requests* the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, as a matter of priority, to publicize the adverse effects of the activities of mercenaries on the right of peoples to self-determination and, when requested and where necessary, to render advisory services to States that are affected by those activities;

15. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Office of the High Commissioner for its support for convening the regional governmental consultations in the Russian Federation for States in the Eastern European Group and Central Asia region and in Thailand for States in the Asian region on traditional

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[262] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2163, No. 37789.

[263] See E/CN.4/2004/15, para. 47.

and new forms of mercenary activities as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination, in particular regarding the effects of the activities of private military and security companies on the enjoyment of human rights;

16. *Requests* the Office of the High Commissioner to continue to support the Working Group in the convening of regional governmental consultations on this matter, with the remaining two to be held before the end of 2010, bearing in mind that this process may lead to the holding of a high-level round table of States, under the auspices of the United Nations, to discuss the fundamental question of the role of the State as holder of the monopoly of the use of force, with the objective of facilitating a critical understanding of the responsibilities of the different actors, including private military and security companies, in the current context, and their respective obligations for the promotion and protection of human rights and in reaching a common understanding as to which additional regulations and controls are needed at the international level;

17. *Notes with appreciation* the work of the Working Group on its elaboration of concrete principles on the regulation of private companies offering military assistance, consultancy and other military security-related services on the international market, which it carried out after country visits and through the process of regional consultations, and in consultation with academics and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations;

18. *Urges* all States to cooperate fully with the Working Group in the fulfilment of its mandate;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to provide the Working Group with all the assistance and support necessary for the fulfilment of its mandate, both professional and financial, including through the promotion of cooperation between the Working Group and other components of the United Nations system that deal with countering mercenary-related activities, in order to meet the demands of its current and future activities;

20. *Requests* the Working Group to consult States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations in the implementation of the present resolution and to report, with specific recommendations, to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session its findings on the use of mercenaries to undermine the enjoyment of all human rights and to impede the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination;

21. *Decides* to consider at its sixty-fifth session the question of the use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination under the item entitled "Right of peoples to self-determination".

RESOLUTION 64/152

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2009, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/439/Add.1 and Corr.1, para. 25)[264] and as orally amended, by a recorded vote of 185 to none, with no abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: None

Abstaining: None

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[264] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Maldives, Malta, Mexico, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

64/152. International Covenants on Human Rights

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 62/147 of 18 December 2007 and Commission on Human Rights resolution 2004/69 of 21 April 2004,[265]

Mindful that the International Covenants on Human Rights[266] constitute the first all-embracing and legally binding international treaties in the field of human rights and, together with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[267] form the core of the International Bill of Human Rights,

Recalling the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights[266] and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[266] and reaffirming that all human rights and fundamental freedoms are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated, that they should be treated in a fair and equal manner, on the same footing and with the same emphasis, and that the promotion and protection of one category of rights should never exempt or excuse States from the promotion and protection of the other rights,

Recalling also the adoption of the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights[268] by the General Assembly on the occasion of the sixtieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,

Recognizing the important role of the Human Rights Committee and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in examining the progress made by States parties in fulfilling the obligations undertaken in the International Covenants on Human Rights and the Optional Protocols thereto and in providing recommendations to States parties on their implementation,

Considering that the effective functioning of the Human Rights Committee and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights is indispensable for the full and effective implementation of the International Covenants on Human Rights,

Recognizing the importance of regional human rights instruments and monitoring mechanisms in complementing the universal system of promotion and protection of human rights,

1. *Reaffirms* the importance of the International Covenants on Human Rights[266] as major components of international efforts to promote universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

2. *Strongly appeals* to all States that have not yet done so to become parties to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights[266] and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[266] and to consider acceding to the Optional Protocols thereto and making the declarations provided for in article 41 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and in articles 10 and 11 of the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[268] and, while acknowledging that additional States have recently become parties to these instruments, requests the Secretary-General to continue to support the annual treaty event to this end;

3. *Acknowledges* the ceremony of opening for signature of the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on 24 September 2009 during the 2009 treaty event and the signatures deposited at the event, with a view to its entry into force;

4. *Invites* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to intensify systematic efforts to encourage States to become parties to the International Covenants on Human Rights with a view to achieving universal adherence and, through the programme of advisory services in the field of human rights, to assist such States, at their request, in ratifying or acceding to the Covenants and to the Optional Protocols thereto;

5. *Calls for* the strictest compliance by States parties with their obligations under the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and, where applicable, the Optional Protocols thereto;

6. *Emphasizes* that States must ensure that any measure to combat terrorism complies with their obligations under relevant international law, including their obligations under the International Covenants on Human Rights;

7. *Stresses* the importance of avoiding the erosion of human rights by derogation, and recalls that certain rights are recognized as non-derogable in any circumstances, underlines the exceptional and temporary nature of any such derogations, and that they must be in accordance with the conditions and procedures stipulated under article 4 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, bearing in mind the need for States parties to provide the fullest possible information during states of emergency so that the justification for the appropriateness of measures taken in those circumstances can be assessed, and in this regard takes note of

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[265] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2004, Supplement No. 3* (E/2004/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[266] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[267] Resolution 217 A (III).

[268] Resolution 63/117, annex.

General Comment No. 29 adopted by the Human Rights Committee;[269]

8. *Encourages* States parties to consider limiting the extent of any reservations that they lodge to the International Covenants on Human Rights and the Optional Protocols thereto, to formulate any reservations as precisely and narrowly as possible and to regularly review such reservations with a view to withdrawing them so as to ensure that no reservation is incompatible with the object and purpose of the relevant treaty;

9. *Welcomes* the annual reports of the Human Rights Committee submitted to the General Assembly at its sixty-third[270] and sixty-fourth[271] sessions;

10. *Also welcomes* the reports of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on its thirty-eighth and thirty-ninth sessions[272] and on its fortieth and forty-first sessions,[273] and takes note of General Comment No. 19 on the right to social security adopted by the Committee;[274]

11. *Expresses regret* at the number of States parties that have failed to fulfil their reporting obligations under the International Covenants on Human Rights, urges States parties to fulfil their reporting obligations on time, invites them to make use of the harmonized guidelines on reporting under the international human rights treaties, including guidelines on a common core document and treaty-specific documents,[275] when submitting reports, and urges States to attend and participate in the consideration of the reports by the Human Rights Committee and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights when so requested;

12. *Urges* States parties to make use in their reports of sex-disaggregated data, and stresses the importance of integrating a gender perspective in the implementation of the International Covenants on Human Rights at the national level, including in the national reports of States parties and in the work of the Human Rights Committee and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights;

13. *Strongly encourages* States parties that have not yet submitted core documents to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to do so, invites them to make use of the harmonized guidelines on reporting, and also invites all States parties regularly to review and update their core documents while bearing in mind the current discussion on the elaboration of an expanded core document;

14. *Urges* States parties to take duly into account, in implementing the provisions of the International Covenants on Human Rights, the recommendations and observations made during the consideration of their reports by the Human Rights Committee and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, and urges States parties to the respective Optional Protocols to take duly into account the views adopted by the Human Rights Committee under the first Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights[266] and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights under the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights following its entry into force;

15. *Takes note with appreciation*, in this regard, of measures taken by both Committees to follow up their concluding observations;

16. *Urges* all States to publish the texts of the International Covenants on Human Rights and the Optional Protocols thereto in as many local languages as possible and to distribute them and make them known as widely as possible to all individuals within their territory and subject to their jurisdiction;

17. *Urges* each State party to give particular attention to the dissemination at the national level of their reports submitted to the Human Rights Committee and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and, further, to translate, publish and make available as widely as possible to all individuals within its territory and subject to its jurisdiction by appropriate means the full text of the recommendations and observations made by the Committees after the examination of those reports;

18. *Reiterates* that States parties should take into account, in their nomination of members to the Human Rights Committee and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, that the Committees shall be composed of persons of high moral character and recognized competence in the field of human rights, consideration being given to the usefulness of the participation of some persons having legal experience, and to equal representation of women and men, and that members shall serve in their personal capacity, and also reiterates that, in the elections to the Committees, consideration shall be given to equitable geographical distribution of membership and to the representation of the different forms of civilization and of the principal legal systems;

19. *Invites* the Human Rights Committee and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, when

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[269] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 40* (A/56/40), vol. I, annex VI.

[270] Ibid., *Sixty-third Session, Supplement No. 40* (A/63/40), vols. I and II.

[271] Ibid., *Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 40* (A/64/40), vols. I and II.

[272] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2008, Supplement No. 2* (E/2008/22).

[273] Ibid., *2009, Supplement No. 2* (E/2009/22).

[274] Ibid., *2008, Supplement No. 2* (E/2008/22), annex VII.

[275] HRI/GEN/2/Rev.5, chap. I; and *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2009, Supplement No. 2* (E/2009/22), annex VIII.

considering the reports of States parties, to continue to identify specific needs that might be addressed by United Nations departments, funds and programmes and the specialized agencies, including through the programme of advisory services and technical cooperation of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights;

20. *Stresses* the need for improved coordination among relevant United Nations mechanisms and bodies in supporting States parties, upon their request, in implementing the International Covenants on Human Rights and the Optional Protocols thereto, and encourages continued efforts in this direction;

21. *Expresses its appreciation* for the efforts made thus far by the Human Rights Committee and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights to improve the efficiency of their working methods, encourages the Committees to pursue their efforts, welcomes in this regard the meetings held by the Committees and States parties to exchange ideas on how to render the working methods of the Committees more efficient, and encourages all States parties to continue to contribute to the dialogue with practical and concrete proposals and ideas on ways to improve the effective functioning of the Committees;

22. *Encourages* the specialized agencies that have not yet done so to submit their reports on the progress made in achieving the observance of the provisions of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, in accordance with article 18 of the Covenant, and expresses its appreciation to those that have done so;

23. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue to assist States parties to the International Covenants on Human Rights in the timely preparation of their reports, including by convening seminars or workshops at the national level for the training of government officials engaged in the preparation of such reports and by exploring other possibilities at the request of States, such as the programme of advisory services and technical cooperation in the field of human rights;

24. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and relevant United Nations entities effectively assist the Human Rights Committee and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in the implementation of their respective mandates by providing, inter alia, adequate Secretariat staff resources and conference and other relevant support services, including translation;

25. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to keep the General Assembly informed of the status of the International Covenants on Human Rights and the Optional Protocols thereto, including all reservations and declarations, through the United Nations websites.

RESOLUTION 64/153

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/439/Add.1 and Corr.1, para. 25)[276]

64/153. Torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming that no one shall be subjected to torture or to other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment,

Recalling that freedom from torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment is a non-derogable right that must be protected under all circumstances, including in times of international or internal armed conflict or disturbance, and that the absolute prohibition of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment is affirmed in relevant international instruments,

Recalling also that the prohibition of torture is a peremptory norm of international law and that international, regional and domestic courts have held the prohibition of cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment to be customary international law,

Recalling further the definition of torture contained in article 1 of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,[277] without prejudice to any international instrument or national legislation which contains or may contain provisions of wider application,

Emphasizing the importance of properly interpreting and implementing the obligations of States with respect to torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, and of abiding strictly by the definition of torture contained in article 1 of the Convention,

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[276] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jordan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

[277] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1465, No. 24841.

Noting that under the Geneva Conventions of 1949,[278] torture and inhuman treatment are a grave breach and that under the statute of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991, the statute of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994 and the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court,[279] acts of torture can constitute crimes against humanity and, when committed in a situation of armed conflict, constitute war crimes,

Emphasizing that the entry into force as soon as possible of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance[280] and its implementation will make a significant contribution to the prevention and prohibition of torture, including by prohibiting secret places of detention, and encouraging all States that have not done so to consider signing, ratifying or acceding to the Convention,

Commending the persistent efforts of civil society organizations, including non-governmental organizations, national human rights institutions and the considerable network of centres for the rehabilitation of victims of torture, to combat torture and to alleviate the suffering of victims of torture,

1. *Condemns* all forms of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, including through intimidation, which are and shall remain prohibited at any time and in any place whatsoever and can thus never be justified, and calls upon all States to implement fully the absolute prohibition of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment;

2. *Emphasizes* that States must take persistent, determined and effective measures to prevent and combat all acts of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, stresses that all acts of torture must be made offences under domestic criminal law, and encourages States to prohibit under domestic law acts constituting cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment;

3. *Welcomes* the establishment of national preventive mechanisms to prevent torture, encourages all States that have not yet done so to establish such mechanisms, and calls upon States parties to the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment[281] to fulfil their obligation to designate or establish truly independent and effective national preventive mechanisms for the prevention of torture;

4. *Emphasizes* the importance of States' ensuring proper follow-up to the recommendations and conclusions of the relevant treaty bodies and mechanisms, including the Committee against Torture, the Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment;

5. *Condemns* any action or attempt by States or public officials to legalize, authorize or acquiesce in torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment under any circumstances, including on grounds of national security or through judicial decisions;

6. *Stresses* that an independent, competent domestic authority must promptly, effectively and impartially examine all allegations of torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment and wherever there is reasonable ground to believe that such an act has been committed, and that those who encourage, order, tolerate or perpetrate such acts must be held responsible, brought to justice and punished in a manner commensurate with the severity of the offence, including the officials in charge of the place of detention where the prohibited act is found to have been committed;

7. *Takes note* in this respect of the Principles on the Effective Investigation and Documentation of Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (the Istanbul Principles)[282] as a useful tool in efforts to prevent and combat torture and of the updated set of principles for the protection of human rights through action to combat impunity;[283]

8. *Calls upon* all States to implement effective measures to prevent torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, particularly in places of detention and other places where persons are deprived of their liberty, including education and training of personnel who may be involved in the custody, interrogation or treatment of any individual subjected to any form of arrest, detention or imprisonment;

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[278] Ibid., vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

[279] Ibid., vol. 2187, No. 38544.

[280] Resolution 61/177, annex.

[281] Resolution 57/199, annex.

[282] Resolution 55/89, annex.

[283] See E/CN.4/2005/102/Add.1.

9. *Also calls upon* all States to adopt a gender-sensitive approach in the fight against torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, paying special attention to gender-based violence;

10. *Calls upon* States to ensure that the rights of persons with disabilities, bearing in mind the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,[284] are fully integrated into torture prevention and protection, and welcomes the efforts of the Special Rapporteur in this regard;

11. *Encourages* all States to ensure that persons convicted of torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment have no subsequent involvement in the custody, interrogation or treatment of any person under arrest, detention, imprisonment or other deprivation of liberty;

12. *Emphasizes* that acts of torture in armed conflict are serious violations of international humanitarian law and in this regard constitute war crimes, that acts of torture can constitute crimes against humanity and that the perpetrators of all acts of torture must be prosecuted and punished;

13. *Strongly urges* States to ensure that no statement that is established to have been made as a result of torture is invoked as evidence in any proceedings, except against a person accused of torture as evidence that the statement was made, and calls upon States to consider extending that prohibition to statements made as a result of cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment;

14. *Stresses* that States must not punish personnel for not obeying orders to commit or conceal acts amounting to torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment;

15. *Urges* States not to expel, return ("refouler"), extradite or in any other way transfer a person to another State where there are substantial grounds for believing that the person would be in danger of being subjected to torture, and recognizes that diplomatic assurances, where used, do not release States from their obligations under international human rights, humanitarian and refugee law, in particular the principle of non-refoulement;

16. *Recalls* that, for the purpose of determining whether there are such grounds, the competent authorities shall take into account all relevant considerations, including, where applicable, the existence in the State concerned of a consistent pattern of gross, flagrant or mass violations of human rights;

17. *Calls upon* States parties to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment[277] to fulfil their obligation to submit for prosecution or extradite those alleged to have committed acts of torture, and encourages other States to do likewise, bearing in mind the need to fight impunity;

18. *Stresses* that national legal systems must ensure that victims of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment obtain redress, are awarded fair and adequate compensation and receive appropriate social and medical rehabilitation, urges States to take effective measures to this end, and in this regard encourages the development of rehabilitation centres;

19. *Recalls* its resolution 43/173 of 9 December 1988 on the Body of Principles for the Protection of All Persons under Any Form of Detention or Imprisonment, and in this context stresses that ensuring that any individual arrested or detained is promptly brought before a judge or other independent judicial officer in person and permitting prompt and regular medical care and legal counsel as well as visits by family members and independent monitoring mechanisms are effective measures for the prevention of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment;

20. *Reminds* all States that prolonged incommunicado detention or detention in secret places can facilitate the perpetration of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment and can in itself constitute a form of such treatment, and urges all States to respect the safeguards concerning the liberty, security and dignity of the person and to ensure that secret places of detention and interrogation are abolished;

21. *Emphasizes* that conditions of detention must respect the dignity and human rights of detainees, highlights the importance of reflecting on this in efforts to promote respect for and protection of the rights of detainees, and notes in this regard concerns about solitary confinement;

22. *Calls upon* all States to take appropriate effective legislative, administrative, judicial and other measures to prevent and prohibit the production, trade, export and use of equipment that is specifically designed to inflict torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment;

23. *Urges* all States that have not yet done so to become parties to the Convention as a matter of priority, and calls upon States parties to give early consideration to signing and ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Convention;

24. *Urges* all States parties to the Convention that have not yet done so to make the declarations provided for in articles 21 and 22 concerning inter-State and individual communications, to consider the possibility of withdrawing their reservations to article 20, and to notify the Secretary-General of their acceptance of the amendments to

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[284] Resolution 61/106, annex I.

articles 17 and 18 with a view to enhancing the effectiveness of the Committee against Torture as soon as possible;

25. *Urges* States parties to comply strictly with their obligations under the Convention, including, in view of the high number of reports not submitted in time, their obligation to submit reports in accordance with article 19 of the Convention, and invites States parties to incorporate a gender perspective and information concerning children and juveniles and persons with disabilities when submitting reports to the Committee;

26. *Welcomes* the work of the Committee and its report submitted in accordance with article 24 of the Convention,[285] recommends that the Committee continue to include information on the follow-up by States to its recommendations, and supports the Committee in its intention to further improve the effectiveness of its working methods;

27. *Invites* the Chairs of the Committee and the Subcommittee to present oral reports on the work of the committees and to engage in an interactive dialogue with the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session under the sub-item entitled "Implementation of human rights instruments";

28. *Calls upon* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, in conformity with her mandate established by the General Assembly in its resolution 48/141 of 20 December 1993, to continue to provide, at the request of States, advisory services for the prevention of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, including for the preparation of national reports to the Committee and for the establishment and operation of national preventive mechanisms, as well as technical assistance for the development, production and distribution of teaching material for this purpose;

29. *Takes note with appreciation* of the interim report of the Special Rapporteur,[286] and encourages the Special Rapporteur to continue to include in his recommendations proposals on the prevention and investigation of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, including its gender-based manifestations;

30. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur to continue to consider including in his report information on the follow-up by States to his recommendations, visits and communications, including progress made and problems encountered, and on other official contacts;

31. *Calls upon* all States to cooperate with and assist the Special Rapporteur in the performance of his task, to supply all necessary information requested by the Special Rapporteur, to fully and expeditiously respond to and follow up on his urgent appeals, to give serious consideration to responding favourably to requests by the Special Rapporteur to visit their countries and to enter into a constructive dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on requested visits to their countries as well as with respect to the follow-up to his recommendations;

32. *Stresses* the need for the continued regular exchange of views among the Committee, the Subcommittee, the Special Rapporteur and other relevant United Nations mechanisms and bodies, as well as for the pursuance of cooperation with relevant United Nations programmes, notably the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, with regional organizations and mechanisms, as appropriate, and civil society organizations, including non-governmental organizations, with a view to enhancing further their effectiveness and cooperation on issues relating to the prevention and eradication of torture, inter alia, by improving their coordination;

33. *Recognizes* the global need for international assistance to victims of torture, stresses the importance of the work of the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture, appeals to all States and organizations to contribute annually to the Fund, preferably with a substantial increase in the level of contributions, and encourages contributions to the Special Fund established by the Optional Protocol to help finance the implementation of the recommendations made by the Subcommittee as well as education programmes of the national preventive mechanisms;

34. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to transmit to all States the appeals of the General Assembly for contributions to the Funds and to include the Funds on an annual basis among the programmes for which funds are pledged at the United Nations Pledging Conference for Development Activities;

35. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the Human Rights Council and to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session a report on the operations of the Funds;

36. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to ensure, within the overall budgetary framework of the United Nations, the provision of adequate staff and facilities for the bodies and mechanisms involved in preventing and combating torture and assisting victims of torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, including in particular the Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture, commensurate with the strong support expressed by Member States for preventing and combating torture and assisting victims of torture;

37. *Calls upon* all States, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and other

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[285] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 44* (A/64/44).

[286] See A/64/215 and Corr.1.

United Nations bodies and agencies, as well as relevant intergovernmental and civil society organizations, including non-governmental organizations, to commemorate, on 26 June, the United Nations International Day in Support of Victims of Torture;

38. *Decides* to consider at its sixty-fifth session the reports of the Secretary-General, including the report on the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture and the Special Fund established by the Optional Protocol, the report of the Committee against Torture and the interim report of the Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.

RESOLUTION 64/154

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/439/Add.1 and Corr.1, para. 25)[287]

64/154. Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Optional Protocol thereto

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous relevant resolutions, the most recent of which was resolution 63/192 of 18 December 2008, as well as relevant resolutions of the Human Rights Council, the Commission for Social Development and the Commission on Human Rights,

1. *Welcomes* the fact that, since the opening for signature of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities[288] and the Optional Protocol thereto[289] on 30 March 2007, one hundred and forty-three States have signed and seventy-six States have ratified the Convention and eighty-seven States have signed and forty-eight States have ratified the Optional Protocol, and that one regional integration organization has signed the Convention;

2. *Calls upon* those States that have not yet done so to consider signing and ratifying the Convention and the Optional Protocol as a matter of priority;

3. *Welcomes* the holding of the second session of the Conference of States Parties to the Convention, from 2 to 4 September 2009, and the commencement of work of the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities;

4. *Also welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General[290] and the activities undertaken in support of the Convention;

5. *Encourages* the Inter-Agency Support Group on the Convention to continue its work to mainstream the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities throughout the United Nations system, and calls upon the Department of Economic and Social Affairs and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to continue strengthening their cooperation in this regard;

6. *Invites* the Secretary-General to intensify efforts to assist States to become parties to the Convention and the Optional Protocol, including by providing assistance with a view to achieving universal adherence;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue the progressive implementation of standards and guidelines for the accessibility of facilities and services of the United Nations system, taking into account relevant provisions of the Convention, in particular when undertaking renovations, including interim arrangements;

8. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to take further actions to promote the rights of persons with disabilities in the United Nations system in accordance with the Convention, including the retention and recruitment of persons with disabilities;

9. *Requests* United Nations agencies and organizations, and invites intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, to continue to strengthen efforts undertaken to disseminate accessible information on the Convention and the Optional Protocol, including to children and young people to promote their understanding, and to assist States parties in implementing their obligations under those instruments;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session a report on the status of the Convention and the Optional Protocol and the implementation of the present resolution.

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[287] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Montenegro, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay and Yemen.

[288] Resolution 61/106, annex I.

[289] Ibid., annex II.

[290] A/64/128 and Corr.1 and 2.

RESOLUTION 64/155

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/439/Add.2 (Part II), para. 110)[291]

64/155. Strengthening the role of the United Nations in enhancing periodic and genuine elections and the promotion of democratization

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming that democracy is a universal value based on the freely expressed will of the people to determine their own political, economic, social and cultural systems and their full participation in all aspects of their lives,

Reaffirming also that, while democracies share common features, there is no single model of democracy and that democracy does not belong to any country or region, and reaffirming further the necessity of due respect for sovereignty and the right to self-determination,

Stressing that democracy, development and respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms are interdependent and mutually reinforcing,

Reaffirming that Member States are responsible for organizing, conducting and ensuring free and fair electoral processes and that Member States, in the exercise of their sovereignty, may request that international organizations provide advisory services or assistance for strengthening and developing their electoral institutions and processes, including sending preliminary missions for that purpose,

Recalling its previous resolutions on the subject, in particular resolution 62/150 of 18 December 2007,

Reaffirming that United Nations electoral assistance and support for the promotion of democratization are provided only at the specific request of the Member State concerned,

Noting with satisfaction that increasing numbers of Member States are using elections as a peaceful means of discerning the will of the people, which builds confidence in representational governance and contributes to greater national peace and stability,

Recalling the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, adopted on 10 December 1948,[292] in particular the principle that the will of the people, as expressed through periodic and genuine elections, shall be the basis of government authority, as well as the right freely to choose representatives through periodic and genuine elections, which shall be by universal and equal suffrage and shall be held by secret vote or by equivalent free voting procedures,

Reaffirming the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[293] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[294] and the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,[295] in particular that citizens, without distinction of any kind, have the right and the opportunity to take part in the conduct of public affairs, directly or through freely chosen representatives, and to vote and to be elected in genuine periodic elections which shall be by universal and equal suffrage and shall be held by secret ballot, guaranteeing the free expression of the will of the electors,

Stressing the importance, generally and in the context of promoting fair and free elections, of respect for the freedom to seek, receive and impart information, in accordance with the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and noting in particular the fundamental importance of access to information and media freedom,

Recognizing the need for strengthening democratic processes, electoral institutions and national capacity-building in requesting countries, including the capacity to administer fair elections, promote the participation of women on equal terms with men, increase citizen participation and provide civic education in requesting countries in order to consolidate and regularize the achievements of previous elections and support subsequent elections,

Noting the importance of ensuring orderly, open, fair and transparent democratic processes that preserve the right of peaceful assembly,

Noting also that the international community can contribute to creating conditions which could foster stability and security throughout the pre-election, election and post-election periods in transitional and post-conflict situations,

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[291] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Bulgaria, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Seychelles, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay and Zambia.

[292] Resolution 217 A (III).

[293] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[294] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

[295] Ibid., vol. 660, No. 9464

Reiterating that transparency is a fundamental basis for free and fair elections, which contribute to the accountability of leaders to their citizens, which, in turn, is an underpinning of democratic societies,

Acknowledging, in this regard, the importance of international election observation for the promotion of free and fair elections and its contribution to enhancing the integrity of election processes in requesting countries, to promoting public confidence and electoral participation and to mitigating the potential for election-related disturbances,

Acknowledging also that extending invitations regarding international electoral assistance and/or observation is the sovereign right of Member States, and welcoming the decisions of those States that have requested such assistance and/or observation,

Welcoming the support provided by Member States to the electoral assistance activities of the United Nations, inter alia, through the provision of electoral experts, including electoral commission staff, and observers, as well as through contributions to the United Nations Trust Fund for Electoral Assistance, the Democratic Governance Thematic Trust Fund and the United Nations Democracy Fund,

Recognizing that electoral assistance, particularly through appropriate, sustainable and cost-effective electoral technology, supports the electoral processes of developing countries,

Recognizing also the coordination challenges posed by the multiplicity of actors involved in electoral assistance both within and outside the United Nations,

Welcoming the contributions made by international and regional organizations and also by non-governmental organizations to enhancing the effectiveness of the principle of periodic and genuine elections and the promotion of democratization,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General;[296]

2. *Commends* the electoral assistance provided upon request to Member States by the United Nations, and requests that such assistance continue on a case-by-case basis in accordance with the evolving needs and legislation of requesting countries to develop, improve and refine their electoral institutions and processes, recognizing that the responsibility for organizing free and fair elections lies with Governments;

3. *Reaffirms* that the electoral assistance provided by the United Nations should continue to be carried out in an objective, impartial, neutral and independent manner;

4. *Requests* the Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs, in his role as United Nations focal point for electoral assistance matters, to continue to inform Member States regularly about the requests received and the nature of any assistance provided;

5. *Requests* that the United Nations continue its efforts to ensure, before undertaking to provide electoral assistance to a requesting State, that there is adequate time to organize and carry out an effective mission for providing such assistance, including the provision of long-term technical cooperation, that conditions exist to allow a free and fair election and that the results of the mission will be reported comprehensively and consistently;

6. *Recommends* that, throughout the time span of the entire electoral cycle, including before and after elections, as appropriate, based on a needs assessment and in accordance with the evolving needs of requesting Member States, bearing in mind sustainability and cost-effectiveness, the United Nations continue to provide technical advice and other assistance to requesting States and electoral institutions in order to help to strengthen their democratic processes;

7. *Notes with appreciation* the additional efforts being made to enhance cooperation with other international, governmental and non-governmental organizations in order to facilitate more comprehensive and needs-specific responses to requests for electoral assistance, encourages those organizations to share knowledge and experience in order to promote best practices in the assistance they provide and in their reporting on electoral processes, and expresses its appreciation to those Member States, regional organizations and non-governmental organizations that have provided observers or technical experts in support of United Nations electoral assistance efforts;

8. *Acknowledges* the aim of harmonizing the methods and standards of the many intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations engaged in observing elections, and in this regard expresses appreciation for the Declaration of Principles for International Election Observation and the Code of Conduct for International Election Observers, which elaborate guidelines for international electoral observation;

9. *Recalls* the establishment by the Secretary-General of the United Nations Trust Fund for Electoral Assistance, and, bearing in mind that the Fund is currently close to depletion, calls upon Member States to consider contributing to the Fund;

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[296] A/64/304.

10. *Encourages* the Secretary-General, through the United Nations focal point for electoral assistance matters and with the support of the Electoral Assistance Division of the Department of Political Affairs of the Secretariat, to continue responding to the evolving nature of requests for assistance and the growing need for specific types of medium-term expert assistance aimed at supporting and strengthening the existing capacity of the requesting Government, in particular by enhancing the capacity of national electoral institutions;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the Electoral Assistance Division with adequate human and financial resources to allow it to carry out its mandate, including to enhance the accessibility and diversity of the roster of electoral experts and the Organization's electoral institutional memory, and to continue to ensure that the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights is able to respond, within its mandate and in close coordination with the Division, to the numerous and increasingly complex and comprehensive requests from Member States for advisory services;

12. *Reiterates* the need for ongoing comprehensive coordination, under the auspices of the United Nations focal point for electoral assistance matters, between the Electoral Assistance Division and the United Nations Development Programme and the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Department of Field Support of the Secretariat to ensure coordination and coherence and avoid duplication of United Nations electoral assistance, and encourages further engagement of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in this context;

13. *Requests* the United Nations Development Programme to continue its democratic governance assistance programmes in cooperation with other relevant organizations, in particular those that promote the strengthening of democratic institutions and linkages between civil society and Governments;

14. *Reiterates* the importance of reinforced coordination within and outside the United Nations system, and reaffirms the role of the United Nations focal point for electoral assistance matters in ensuring system-wide coherence and consistency and in strengthening the institutional memory and the development and dissemination of electoral policies;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution, in particular on the status of requests from Member States for electoral assistance, and on his efforts to enhance support by the Organization for the democratization process in Member States.

RESOLUTION 64/156

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2009, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/439/Add.2 (Part II), para. 110),[297] by a recorded vote of 80 to 61, with 42 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Chad, China, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen

Against: Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Vanuatu

Abstaining: Albania, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Bahamas, Belize, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Equatorial Guinea, Fiji, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, India, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Malawi, Mauritius, Mongolia, Nepal, Paraguay, Peru, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Trinidad and Tobago, Tuvalu, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia

64/156. Combating defamation of religions

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the pledge made by all States, under the Charter of the United Nations, to promote and encourage universal respect for and observance of all human rights and fundamental freedoms without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion,

Recalling the relevant international instruments on the elimination of discrimination, in particular the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial

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[297] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Belarus, Malaysia (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Organization of the Islamic Conference) and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

Discrimination,[298] the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[299] the Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief,[300] the Declaration on the Human Rights of Individuals Who are not Nationals of the Country in which They Live[301] and the Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities,[302]

Reaffirming that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated,

Recalling the relevant resolutions of the Commission on Human Rights and the Human Rights Council in this regard,

Welcoming the resolve expressed in the United Nations Millennium Declaration adopted by the General Assembly on 8 September 2000[303] to take measures to eliminate the increasing acts of racism and xenophobia in many societies and to promote greater harmony and tolerance in all societies, and looking forward to its effective implementation at all levels,

Underlining, in this regard, the importance of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, held in Durban, South Africa, from 31 August to 8 September 2001[304] and the outcome document of the Durban Review Conference, held in Geneva from 20 to 24 April 2009,[305] welcoming the progress achieved in implementing them, and emphasizing that they constitute a solid foundation for the elimination of the scourges and all manifestations of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance,

Expressing serious concern at the increase in racist violence and xenophobic ideas in many parts of the world, in political circles, in the sphere of public opinion and in society at large, as a result, inter alia, of the resurgence of activities of political parties and associations established on the basis of racist, xenophobic and ideological superiority platforms and charters, and the persistent use of those platforms and charters to promote or incite racist ideologies,

Deeply alarmed at the rising trends towards discrimination based on religion or belief, including in some national policies, laws and administrative measures that stigmatize groups of people belonging to certain religions and beliefs under a variety of pretexts relating to security and irregular immigration, thereby legitimizing discrimination against them and consequently impairing their enjoyment of the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion and impeding their ability to observe, practise and manifest their religion freely and without fear of coercion, violence or reprisal,

Noting with deep concern the serious instances of intolerance, discrimination and acts of violence based on religion or belief, intimidation and coercion motivated by extremism, religious or otherwise, occurring in many parts of the world, in addition to the negative projection of certain religions in the media and the introduction and enforcement of laws and administrative measures that specifically discriminate against and target persons with certain ethnic and religious backgrounds, particularly Muslim minorities following the events of 11 September 2001, and that threaten to impede their full enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Stressing that defamation of religions is a serious affront to human dignity leading to the illicit restriction of the freedom of religion of their adherents and incitement to religious hatred and violence,

Stressing also the need to effectively combat defamation of all religions, and incitement to religious hatred in general,

Reaffirming that discrimination on the grounds of religion or belief constitutes a violation of human rights and a disavowal of the principles of the Charter,

Noting with concern that defamation of religions, and incitement to religious hatred in general, could lead to social disharmony and violations of human rights, and alarmed at the inaction of some States to combat this burgeoning trend and the resulting discriminatory practices against adherents of certain religions,

Taking note of the reports of the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance submitted to the Human Rights Council at its fourth, sixth, ninth and twelfth sessions,[306] in which the Special Rapporteur highlighted the serious nature of the defamation of all religions and the need to complement legal strategies, and reiterating the call of the Special Rapporteur to all States to wage a systematic campaign against incitement to racial and religious hatred by maintaining a careful balance between the defence of secularism and respect for freedom of religion and by acknowledging and respecting the complementarity of all the freedoms embodied in internationally agreed human rights instruments, including the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,

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[298] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 660, No. 9464.

[299] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[300] See resolution 36/55.

[301] Resolution 40/144, annex.

[302] Resolution 47/135, annex.

[303] See resolution 55/2.

[304] See A/CONF.189/12 and Corr.1, chap. I.

[305] See A/CONF.211/8, chap. I.

[306] A/HRC/4/19, A/HRC/6/6, A/HRC/9/12 and A/HRC/12/38.

Recalling the proclamation of the Global Agenda for Dialogue among Civilizations,[307] and inviting States, the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, within existing resources, other international and regional organizations and civil society to contribute to the implementation of the Programme of Action contained in the Global Agenda,

Welcoming the efforts of the Alliance of Civilizations initiative in promoting mutual respect and understanding among different cultures and societies, including its first forum, held in Spain in 2008, its second forum, held in Turkey in 2009, its third forum, to be held in Brazil in 2010, and its fourth forum, to be held in Qatar in 2011,

Recognizing the valuable contributions of all religions and beliefs to modern civilization and the contribution that dialogue among civilizations can make to an improved awareness and understanding of common values,

Convinced that respect for cultural, ethnic, religious and linguistic diversity, as well as dialogue among and within civilizations, is essential for peace, understanding and friendship among individuals and people of the different cultures and nations of the world, while manifestations of cultural prejudice, intolerance and xenophobia towards people belonging to different cultures, religions and beliefs give rise to polarization and disturb social cohesion, generating hatred and violence among peoples and nations throughout the world,

Underlining the important role of education in the promotion of tolerance, which involves acceptance by the public of, and its respect for, diversity, including with regard to religious expression, and underlining also the fact that education should contribute in a meaningful way to promoting tolerance and the elimination of discrimination based on religion or belief,

Reaffirming the need for all States to continue their national and international efforts to enhance dialogue and broaden understanding among civilizations, cultures, religions and beliefs, and emphasizing that States, regional organizations, non-governmental organizations, religious bodies and the media have an important role to play in promoting tolerance, and respect for and freedom of religion and belief,

Welcoming all international and regional initiatives aimed at promoting cross-cultural and interfaith harmony, including the international dialogue on interfaith cooperation, the World Conference on Dialogue, held in Madrid from 16 to 18 July 2008, and the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the culture of peace, held on 12 and 13 November 2008, and their valuable efforts towards the promotion of a culture of peace and dialogue at all levels, and taking note with appreciation of the programmes led by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in this regard,

Underlining the importance of increasing contacts at all levels in order to deepen dialogue and reinforce understanding among different cultures, religions, beliefs and civilizations, and in this regard taking note with appreciation of the Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the Ministerial Meeting on Human Rights and Cultural Diversity of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Tehran on 3 and 4 September 2007,[308]

Recognizing the importance of the intersection of religion and race and that instances can arise of multiple or aggravated forms of discrimination on the basis of religion and other grounds, such as race, colour, descent or national or ethnic origin,

Recalling its resolution 63/171 of 18 December 2008,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[309]

2. *Expresses deep concern* at the negative stereotyping of religions and manifestations of intolerance and discrimination in matters of religion or belief still evident in the world;

3. *Strongly deplores* all acts of psychological and physical violence and assaults, and incitement thereto, against persons on the basis of their religion or belief, and such acts directed against their businesses, properties, cultural centres and places of worship, as well as targeting of holy sites and religious symbols of all religions;

4. *Expresses deep concern* at the programmes and agendas pursued by extremist organizations and groups aimed at creating and perpetuating stereotypes about certain religions, in particular when condoned by Governments;

5. *Notes with deep concern* the intensification of the overall campaign of defamation of religions, and incitement to religious hatred in general, including the ethnic and religious profiling of Muslim minorities in the aftermath of the tragic events of 11 September 2001;

6. *Recognizes* that, in the context of the fight against terrorism, defamation of religions, and incitement to religious hatred in general, become aggravating factors that contribute to the denial of fundamental rights and freedoms of members of target groups, as well as to their economic and social exclusion;

7. *Expresses deep concern*, in this respect, that Islam is frequently and wrongly associated with human rights violations and terrorism;

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[307] See resolution 56/6.

[308] A/62/464, annex.

[309] A/64/209.

8. *Reiterates* the commitment of all States to the implementation, in an integrated manner, of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, which was adopted without a vote by the General Assembly on 8 September 2006[310] and reaffirmed by the Assembly in its resolution 62/272 of 5 September 2008, and which clearly confirms, inter alia, that terrorism cannot and should not be associated with any religion, nationality, civilization or ethnic group, stressing the need to reinforce the commitment of the international community to promote a culture of peace, justice and human development, ethnic, national and religious tolerance, and respect for all religions, religious values, beliefs or cultures and prevent the defamation of religions;

9. *Deplores* the use of the print, audio-visual and electronic media, including the Internet, and any other means to incite acts of violence, xenophobia or related intolerance and discrimination against any religion, as well as targeting of religious symbols;

10. *Emphasizes* that, as stipulated in international human rights law, everyone has the right to hold opinions without interference and has the right to freedom of expression, the exercise of which carries with it special duties and responsibilities and may therefore be subject to limitations as are provided for by law and are necessary for respect of the rights or reputations of others, protection of national security or of public order, public health or morals;

11. *Reaffirms* that general recommendation XV (42) of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination,[311] in which the Committee stipulated that the prohibition of the dissemination of all ideas based upon racial superiority or hatred is compatible with freedom of opinion and expression, is equally applicable to the question of incitement to religious hatred;

12. *Takes note* of the work undertaken by the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression in accordance with their mandates defined by the Human Rights Council in its resolutions 7/34 and 7/36 of 28 March 2008;[312]

13. *Strongly condemns* all manifestations and acts of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance against national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities and migrants and the stereotypes often applied to them, including on the basis of religion or belief, and urges all States to apply and, where applicable, reinforce existing laws when such xenophobic or intolerant acts, manifestations or expressions occur in order to eradicate impunity for those who commit xenophobic and racist acts;

14. *Reaffirms* the obligation of all States to enact the legislation necessary to prohibit the advocacy of national, racial or religious hatred that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence, and encourages States, in their follow-up to the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, to include aspects relating to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities in their national plans of action and in this context to take forms of multiple discrimination against minorities fully into account;

15. *Invites* all States to put into practice the provisions of the Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief;[309]

16. *Urges* all States to provide, within their respective legal and constitutional systems, adequate protection against acts of hatred, discrimination, intimidation and coercion resulting from defamation of religions, and incitement to religious hatred in general;

17. *Also urges* all States to take all possible measures to promote tolerance and respect for all religions and beliefs and the understanding of their value systems and to complement legal systems with intellectual and moral strategies to combat religious hatred and intolerance;

18. *Recognizes* that the open, constructive and respectful debate of ideas, as well as interfaith and intercultural dialogue at the local, national and international levels, can play a positive role in combating religious hatred, incitement and violence;

19. *Welcomes* the recent steps taken by Member States to protect freedom of religion through the enactment or strengthening of domestic frameworks and legislation to prevent the defamation of religions and the negative stereotyping of religious groups;

20. *Urges* all States to ensure that all public officials, including members of law enforcement bodies, the military, civil servants and educators, in the course of their official duties, respect people regardless of their different religions and beliefs and do not discriminate against persons on the grounds of their religion or belief, and that any necessary and appropriate education or training is provided;

21. *Underscores* the need to combat defamation of religions, and incitement to religious hatred in general, by strategizing and harmonizing actions at the local, national, regional and international levels through education and awareness-raising, and urges all States to ensure equal access to education for all, in law and in practice, including access to free primary education for all children, both girls and boys, and access for adults to lifelong learning and education based on

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[310] Resolution 60/288.

[311] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 18* (A/48/18), chap. VIII, sect. B.

[312] Ibid., *Sixty-third Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/63/53), chap. II.

respect for human rights, diversity and tolerance, without discrimination of any kind, and to refrain from any legal or other measures leading to racial segregation in access to schooling;

22. *Calls upon* all States to exert the utmost efforts, in accordance with their national legislation and in conformity with international human rights and humanitarian law, to ensure that religious places, sites, shrines and symbols are fully respected and protected, and to take additional measures in cases where they are vulnerable to desecration or destruction;

23. *Calls upon* the international community to foster a global dialogue to promote a culture of tolerance and peace at all levels, based on respect for human rights and diversity of religion and belief, and urges States, non-governmental organizations, religious leaders and bodies and the print and electronic media to support and foster such a dialogue;

24. *Affirms* that the Human Rights Council shall promote universal respect for all religious and cultural values and address instances of intolerance, discrimination and incitement of hatred against members of any community or adherents of any religion, as well as the means to consolidate international efforts in order to combat impunity for such deplorable acts;

25. *Welcomes* the initiative of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the expert seminar on freedom of expression and advocacy of religious hatred that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence, held on 2 and 3 October 2008, and requests the High Commissioner to continue to build on this initiative, with a view to concretely contributing to the prevention and elimination of all such forms of incitement and the consequences of negative stereotyping of religions or beliefs, and their adherents, on the human rights of those individuals and their communities;

26. *Takes note* of the efforts of the High Commissioner to promote and include human rights aspects in educational programmes, particularly the World Programme for Human Rights Education proclaimed by the General Assembly on 10 December 2004,[313] and calls upon the High Commissioner to continue those efforts, with particular focus on:

(*a*) The contributions of cultures, as well as religious and cultural diversity;

(*b*) Collaboration with other relevant bodies of the United Nations system and regional and international organizations in holding joint conferences designed to encourage dialogue among civilizations and promote understanding of the universality of human rights and their implementation at various levels, in particular the Office of the United Nations High Representative for the Alliance of Civilizations, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the unit within the Secretariat mandated to interact with various entities within the United Nations system and coordinate their contribution to the intergovernmental process;

27. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution, including the correlation between defamation of religions and the intersection of religion and race, the upsurge in incitement, intolerance and hatred in many parts of the world and steps taken by States to combat this phenomenon, to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session.

RESOLUTION 64/157

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2009, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/439/Add.2 (Part II), para. 110),[314] by a recorded vote of 127 to 54, with 5 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates,

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[313] See resolutions 59/113 A and B.

[314] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Angola, Bangladesh, Belarus, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, China, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Ghana, Honduras, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Myanmar, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Pakistan, Paraguay, Russian Federation, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Argentina, Armenia, Chile, Mexico, Peru

64/157. Promotion of a democratic and equitable international order

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions on the promotion of a democratic and equitable international order, including resolution 63/189 of 18 December 2008, and taking note of Human Rights Council resolution 8/5 of 18 June 2008,[315]

Reaffirming the commitment of all States to fulfil their obligations to promote universal respect for, and observance and protection of, all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, other instruments relating to human rights and international law,

Affirming that the enhancement of international cooperation for the promotion and protection of all human rights should continue to be carried out in full conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter and international law as set forth in Articles 1 and 2 of the Charter and, inter alia, with full respect for sovereignty, territorial integrity, political independence, the non-use of force or the threat of force in international relations and non-intervention in matters that are essentially within the domestic jurisdiction of any State,

Recalling the Preamble to the Charter, in particular the determination to reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person and in the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small,

Reaffirming that everyone is entitled to a social and international order in which the rights and freedoms set forth in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[316] can be fully realized,

Reaffirming also the determination expressed in the Preamble to the Charter to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war, to establish conditions under which justice and respect for the obligations arising from treaties and other sources of international law can be maintained, to promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom, to practise tolerance and good-neighbourliness, and to employ international machinery for the promotion of the economic and social advancement of all peoples,

Stressing that the responsibility for managing worldwide economic and social issues, as well as threats to international peace and security, must be shared among the nations of the world and should be exercised multilaterally, and that in this regard the central role must be played by the United Nations, as the most universal and representative organization in the world,

Considering the major changes taking place on the international scene and the aspirations of all peoples for an international order based on the principles enshrined in the Charter, including promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all and respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples, peace, democracy, justice, equality, the rule of law, pluralism, development, better standards of living and solidarity,

Recognizing that the enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights is essential for the full achievement of the purposes of the United Nations, including the effective promotion and protection of all human rights,

Considering that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights proclaims that all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights and that everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set out therein, without distinction of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status,

Reaffirming that democracy, development and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms are interdependent and mutually reinforcing, and that democracy is based on the freely expressed will of the people to determine their own political, economic, social and cultural systems and their full participation in all aspects of their lives,

Recognizing that the promotion and protection of human rights should be based on the principle of cooperation and genuine dialogue and aimed at strengthening the capacity of Member States to comply with their human rights obligations for the benefit of all human beings,

Emphasizing that democracy is not only a political concept, but that it also has economic and social dimensions,

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[315] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-third Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/63/53), chap. III, sect. A

[316] Resolution 217 A (III).

Recognizing that democracy, respect for all human rights, including the right to development, transparent and accountable governance and administration in all sectors of society, and effective participation by civil society are an essential part of the necessary foundations for the realization of social and people-centred sustainable development,

Noting with concern that racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance may be aggravated by, inter alia, inequitable distribution of wealth, marginalization and social exclusion,

Underlining the fact that it is imperative for the international community to ensure that globalization becomes a positive force for all the world's people, and that only through broad and sustained efforts, based on common humanity in all its diversity, can globalization be made fully inclusive and equitable,

Concerned that the current global economic, financial, energy and food crises, resulting from a combination of several major factors, including macroeconomic and other factors, such as environmental degradation, desertification and global climate change, natural disasters and the lack of financial resources and the technology necessary to confront their negative impact in developing countries, particularly in the least developed countries and small island developing States, represent a global scenario that is threatening the adequate enjoyment of all human rights and widening the gap between developed and developing countries,

Stressing that efforts to make globalization fully inclusive and equitable must include policies and measures, at the global level, that correspond to the needs of developing countries and countries with economies in transition and are formulated and implemented with their effective participation,

Stressing also the need for adequate financing of and technology transfer to developing countries, in particular the landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, including to support their efforts to adapt to climate change,

Having listened to the peoples of the world, and recognizing their aspirations to justice, to equality of opportunity for all, to the enjoyment of their human rights, including the right to development, to live in peace and freedom and to equal participation without discrimination in economic, social, cultural, civil and political life,

Resolved to take all measures within its power to secure a democratic and equitable international order,

1. *Affirms* that everyone is entitled to a democratic and equitable international order;

2. *Also affirms* that a democratic and equitable international order fosters the full realization of all human rights for all;

3. *Calls upon* all Member States to fulfil their commitment expressed in Durban, South Africa, during the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance to maximize the benefits of globalization through, inter alia, the strengthening and enhancement of international cooperation to increase equality of opportunities for trade, economic growth and sustainable development, global communications through the use of new technologies and increased intercultural exchange through the preservation and promotion of cultural diversity,[317] and reiterates that only through broad and sustained efforts to create a shared future based upon our common humanity and all its diversity can globalization be made fully inclusive and equitable;

4. *Affirms* that a democratic and equitable international order requires, inter alia, the realization of the following:

(*a*) The right of all peoples to self-determination, by virtue of which they can freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development;

(*b*) The right of peoples and nations to permanent sovereignty over their natural wealth and resources;

(*c*) The right of every human person and all peoples to development;

(*d*) The right of all peoples to peace;

(*e*) The right to an international economic order based on equal participation in the decision-making process, interdependence, mutual interest, solidarity and cooperation among all States;

(*f*) International solidarity, as a right of peoples and individuals;

(*g*) The promotion and consolidation of transparent, democratic, just and accountable international institutions in all areas of cooperation, in particular through the implementation of the principle of full and equal participation in their respective decision-making mechanisms;

(*h*) The right to equitable participation of all, without any discrimination, in domestic and global decision-making;

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[317] See A/CONF.189/12 and Corr.1, chap. I.

(*i*) The principle of equitable regional and gender-balanced representation in the composition of the staff of the United Nations system;

(*j*) The promotion of a free, just, effective and balanced international information and communications order, based on international cooperation for the establishment of a new equilibrium and greater reciprocity in the international flow of information, in particular correcting the inequalities in the flow of information to and from developing countries;

(*k*) Respect for cultural diversity and the cultural rights of all, since this enhances cultural pluralism, contributes to a wider exchange of knowledge and understanding of cultural backgrounds, advances the application and enjoyment of universally accepted human rights across the world and fosters stable, friendly relations among peoples and nations worldwide;

(*l*) The right of every person and all peoples to a healthy environment and to enhanced international cooperation that responds effectively to the needs for assistance of national efforts to adapt to climate change, particularly in developing countries, and that promotes the fulfilment of international agreements in the field of mitigation;

(*m*) The promotion of equitable access to benefits from the international distribution of wealth through enhanced international cooperation, in particular in economic, commercial and financial international relations;

(*n*) The enjoyment by everyone of ownership of the common heritage of mankind in connection to the public right of access to culture;

(*o*) The shared responsibility of the nations of the world for managing worldwide economic and social development as well as threats to international peace and security that should be exercised multilaterally;

5. *Stresses* the importance of preserving the rich and diverse nature of the international community of nations and peoples, as well as respect for national and regional particularities and various historical, cultural and religious backgrounds in the enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights;

6. *Also stresses* that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated and that the international community must treat human rights globally in a fair and equal manner, on the same footing and with the same emphasis, and reaffirms that, while the significance of national and regional particularities and various historical, cultural and religious backgrounds must be borne in mind, it is the duty of States, regardless of their political, economic and cultural systems, to promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms;

7. *Urges* all actors on the international scene to build an international order based on inclusion, justice, equality and equity, human dignity, mutual understanding and promotion of and respect for cultural diversity and universal human rights, and to reject all doctrines of exclusion based on racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

8. *Reaffirms* that all States should promote the establishment, maintenance and strengthening of international peace and security and, to that end, should do their utmost to achieve general and complete disarmament under effective international control, as well as to ensure that the resources released by effective disarmament measures are used for comprehensive development, in particular that of the developing countries;

9. *Also reaffirms* the need to continue working urgently for the establishment of an international economic order based on equity, sovereign equality, interdependence, common interest and cooperation among all States, irrespective of their economic and social systems, which shall correct inequalities and redress existing injustices, make it possible to eliminate the widening gap between the developed and the developing countries and ensure steadily accelerating economic and social development and peace and justice for present and future generations;

10. *Further reaffirms* that the international community should devise ways and means to remove the current obstacles and meet the challenges to the full realization of all human rights and to prevent the continuation of human rights violations resulting therefrom throughout the world;

11. *Urges* States to continue their efforts, through enhanced international cooperation, towards the promotion of a democratic and equitable international order;

12. *Requests* the Human Rights Council, the human rights treaty bodies, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the special mechanisms extended by the Council and the Human Rights Council Advisory Committee to pay due attention, within their respective mandates, to the present resolution and to make contributions towards its implementation;

13. *Calls upon* the Office of the High Commissioner to build upon the issue of the promotion of a democratic and equitable international order;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of Member States, United Nations organs, bodies and components, intergovernmental organizations, in particular the Bretton Woods institutions,

and non-governmental organizations, and to disseminate it on the widest possible basis;

15. *Decides* to continue consideration of the matter at its sixty-fifth session under the item entitled "Promotion and protection of human rights".

RESOLUTION 64/158

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/439/Add.2 (Part II), para. 110)[318]

64/158. Strengthening United Nations action in the field of human rights through the promotion of international cooperation and the importance of non-selectivity, impartiality and objectivity

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind that among the purposes of the United Nations are those of developing friendly relations among nations based on respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples and taking other appropriate measures to strengthen universal peace, as well as achieving international cooperation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural or humanitarian character and in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion,

Desirous of achieving further progress in international cooperation in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Considering that such international cooperation should be based on the principles embodied in international law, especially the Charter of the United Nations, as well as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[319] the International Covenants on Human Rights[320] and other relevant instruments,

Deeply convinced that United Nations action in the field of human rights should be based not only on a profound understanding of the broad range of problems existing in all societies but also on full respect for the political, economic and social realities of each of them, in strict compliance with the purposes and principles of the Charter and for the basic purpose of promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms through international cooperation,

Recalling its previous resolutions in this regard,

Reaffirming the importance of ensuring the universality, objectivity and non-selectivity of the consideration of human rights issues, as affirmed in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[321] and the elimination of double standards,

Affirming the importance of the objectivity, independence, impartiality and discretion of the special rapporteurs and representatives on thematic issues and on countries, as well as of the members of the working groups, in carrying out their mandates,

Underlining the obligation that Governments have to promote and protect human rights and to carry out the responsibilities that they have undertaken under international law, especially the Charter, as well as various international instruments in the field of human rights,

1. *Reiterates* that, by virtue of the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, all peoples have the right freely to determine, without external interference, their political status and to pursue their economic, social and cultural development, and that every State has the duty to respect that right within the provisions of the Charter, including respect for territorial integrity;

2. *Reaffirms* that it is a purpose of the United Nations and the task of all Member States, in cooperation with the Organization, to promote and encourage respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms and to remain vigilant with regard to violations of human rights wherever they occur;

3. *Calls upon* all Member States to base their activities for the promotion and protection of human rights, including the development of further international cooperation in this field, on the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[319] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[320] the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights[320] and other relevant international instruments, and to refrain from activities that are inconsistent with that international framework;

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[318] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Angola, Bangladesh, Belarus, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

[319] Resolution 217 A (III).

[320] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[321] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

4. *Considers* that international cooperation in this field should make an effective and practical contribution to the urgent task of preventing mass and flagrant violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms for all and to the strengthening of international peace and security;

5. *Reaffirms* that the promotion, protection and full realization of all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, as a legitimate concern of the world community, should be guided by the principles of non-selectivity, impartiality and objectivity and should not be used for political ends;

6. *Requests* all human rights bodies within the United Nations system, as well as the special rapporteurs and representatives, independent experts and working groups, to take duly into account the contents of the present resolution in carrying out their mandates;

7. *Expresses its conviction* that an unbiased and fair approach to human rights issues contributes to the promotion of international cooperation as well as to the effective promotion, protection and realization of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

8. *Stresses*, in this context, the continuing need for impartial and objective information on the political, economic and social situations and events of all countries;

9. *Invites* Member States to consider adopting, as appropriate, within the framework of their respective legal systems and in accordance with their obligations under international law, especially the Charter, and international human rights instruments, the measures that they may deem appropriate to achieve further progress in international cooperation in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms;

10. *Requests* the Human Rights Council to continue taking duly into account the present resolution and to consider further proposals for the strengthening of United Nations action in the field of human rights through the promotion of international cooperation and the importance of the principles of non-selectivity, impartiality and objectivity, including in the context of the universal periodic review;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to invite Member States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to present further practical proposals and ideas that would contribute to the strengthening of United Nations action in the field of human rights through the promotion of international cooperation based on the principles of non-selectivity, impartiality and objectivity, and to submit a comprehensive report on the question to the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session;

12. *Decides* to consider the matter at its sixty-sixth session under the item entitled "Promotion and protection of human rights".

RESOLUTION 64/159

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/439/Add.2 (Part II), para. 110)[322]

64/159. The right to food

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming all previous resolutions and decisions on the right to food adopted within the framework of the United Nations,

Recalling the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[323] which provides that everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for her or his health and well-being, including food, the Universal Declaration on the Eradication of Hunger and Malnutrition[324] and the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[325] in particular millennium development goal 1 on eradicating extreme poverty and hunger by 2015,

Recalling also the provisions of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[326] in which the fundamental right of every person to be free from hunger is recognized,

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[322] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

[323] Resolution 217 A (III).

[324] *Report of the World Food Conference, Rome, 5–16 November 1974* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.75.II.A.3), chap. I.

[325] See resolution 55/2.

[326] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

Bearing in mind the Rome Declaration on World Food Security and the World Food Summit Plan of Action[327] and the Declaration of the World Food Summit: five years later, adopted in Rome on 13 June 2002,[328]

Reaffirming the concrete recommendations contained in the Voluntary Guidelines to Support the Progressive Realization of the Right to Adequate Food in the Context of National Food Security, adopted by the Council of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in November 2004,[329]

Reaffirming also that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated, and that they must be treated globally, in a fair and equal manner, on the same footing and with the same emphasis,

Reaffirming further that a peaceful, stable and enabling political, social and economic environment, at both the national and the international levels, is the essential foundation that will enable States to give adequate priority to food security and poverty eradication,

Reiterating, as in the Rome Declaration on World Food Security and the Declaration of the World Food Summit: five years later, that food should not be used as an instrument of political or economic pressure, and reaffirming in this regard the importance of international cooperation and solidarity, as well as the necessity of refraining from unilateral measures that are not in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations and that endanger food security,

Convinced that each State must adopt a strategy consistent with its resources and capacities to achieve its individual goals in implementing the recommendations contained in the Rome Declaration on World Food Security and the World Food Summit Plan of Action and, at the same time, cooperate regionally and internationally in order to organize collective solutions to global issues of food security in a world of increasingly interlinked institutions, societies and economies where coordinated efforts and shared responsibilities are essential,

Recognizing that the complex character of the global food crisis, in which the right to adequate food is threatened to be violated on a massive scale, is a combination of several major factors, such as the global financial and economic crisis, environmental degradation, desertification and the impacts of global climate change, as well as natural disasters and the lack in many countries of the appropriate technology, investment and capacity-building necessary to confront its impact, particularly in developing countries, least developed countries and small island developing States,

Resolved to act to ensure that the human rights perspective is taken into account at the national, regional and international levels in measures to address the current global food crisis,

Expressing its deep concern at the number and scale of natural disasters, diseases and pests and their increasing impact in recent years, which have resulted in massive loss of life and livelihood and threatened agricultural production and food security, in particular in developing countries,

Stressing the importance of reversing the continuing decline of official development assistance devoted to agriculture, both in real terms and as a share of total official development assistance,

Recognizing the importance of the protection and preservation of agrobiodiversity in guaranteeing food security and the right to food for all,

Recognizing also the role of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations as the key United Nations agency for rural and agricultural development and its work in supporting the efforts of Member States to achieve the full realization of the right to food, including through its provision of technical assistance to developing countries in support of the implementation of national priority frameworks,

Taking note of the final Declaration adopted at the International Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in Porto Alegre, Brazil, on 10 March 2006,[330]

Acknowledging the High-level Task Force on the Global Food Security Crisis established by the Secretary-General, and supporting the Secretary-General in his continuing efforts in this regard, including continued engagement with Member States and the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the right to food,

1. *Reaffirms* that hunger constitutes an outrage and a violation of human dignity and therefore requires the adoption of urgent measures at the national, regional and international levels for its elimination;

2. *Also reaffirms* the right of everyone to have access to safe, sufficient and nutritious food, consistent with the right to adequate food and the fundamental right of everyone to be free

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[327] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, *Report of the World Food Summit, 13–17 November 1996* (WFS 96/REP), part one, appendix.

[328] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, *Report of the World Food Summit: five years later, 10–13 June 2002*, part one, appendix; see also A/57/499, annex.

[329] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, *Report of the Council of FAO, One Hundred and Twenty-seventh Session, Rome, 2–27 November 2004* (CL 127/REP), appendix D; see also E/CN.4/2005/131, annex.

[330] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, *Report of the International Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development, Porto Alegre, Brazil, 7–10 March 2006* (C 2006/REP), appendix G.

from hunger, so as to be able to fully develop and maintain his or her physical and mental capacities;

3. *Considers it intolerable* that, as estimated by the United Nations Children's Fund, more than one third of the children who die every year before the age of 5 do so from hunger-related illness, and that, as estimated by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the number of people who are undernourished has grown to about 1.02 billion worldwide, including as a result of the global food crisis, while, according to the latter organization, the planet could produce enough food to feed everyone around the world;

4. *Expresses its concern* that women and girls are disproportionately affected by hunger, food insecurity and poverty, in part as a result of gender inequality and discrimination, that in many countries, girls are twice as likely as boys to die from malnutrition and preventable childhood diseases and that it is estimated that almost twice as many women as men suffer from malnutrition;

5. *Encourages* all States to take action to address gender inequality and discrimination against women, in particular where it contributes to the malnutrition of women and girls, including measures to ensure the full and equal realization of the right to food and ensuring that women have equal access to resources, including income, land and water and their ownership, as well as full and equal access to education, science and technology, to enable them to feed themselves and their families;

6. *Encourages* the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the right to food to continue mainstreaming a gender perspective in the fulfilment of his mandate, and encourages the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and all other United Nations bodies and mechanisms addressing the right to food and food insecurity to integrate a gender perspective into their relevant policies, programmes and activities;

7. *Reaffirms* the need to ensure that programmes delivering safe and nutritious food are inclusive of and accessible to persons with disabilities;

8. *Encourages* all States to take steps with a view to achieving progressively the full realization of the right to food, including steps to promote the conditions for everyone to be free from hunger and, as soon as possible, to enjoy fully the right to food, and to create and adopt national plans to combat hunger;

9. *Recognizes* the advances reached through South-South cooperation in developing countries and regions in connection with food security and the development of agricultural production for the full realization of the right to food;

10. *Stresses* that improving access to productive resources and public investment in rural development are essential for eradicating hunger and poverty, in particular in developing countries, including through the promotion of investments in appropriate small-scale irrigation and water management technologies in order to reduce vulnerability to droughts;

11. *Recognizes* that 80 per cent of hungry people live in rural areas and 50 per cent are small-scale farm-holders, and that these people are especially vulnerable to food insecurity, given the increasing cost of inputs and the fall in farm incomes; that access to land, water, seeds and other natural resources is an increasing challenge for poor producers; that sustainable and gender-sensitive agricultural policies are important tools for promoting land and agrarian reform, rural credit and insurance, technical assistance and other associated measures to achieve food security and rural development; and that support by States for small farmers, fishing communities and local enterprises is a key element for food security and the provision of the right to food;

12. *Stresses* the importance of fighting hunger in rural areas, including through national efforts supported by international partnerships to stop desertification and land degradation and through investments and public policies that are specifically appropriate to the risk of drylands, and in this regard calls for the full implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa;[331]

13. *Urges* States that have not yet done so to favourably consider becoming parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity[332] and to consider becoming parties to the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture[333] as a matter of priority;

14. *Recalls* the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples[334] and acknowledges that many indigenous organizations and representatives of indigenous peoples have expressed in different forums their deep concerns over the obstacles and challenges they face for the full enjoyment of the right to food, and calls upon States to take special actions to combat the root causes of the disproportionately high level of hunger and malnutrition among indigenous peoples and the continuous discrimination against them;

15. *Notes* the need to further examine various concepts such as, inter alia, "food sovereignty" and their relation with

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[331] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1954, No. 33480.

[332] Ibid., vol. 1760, No. 30619.

[333] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, *Report of the Conference of FAO, Thirty-first Session, Rome, 2–13 November 2001* (C 2001/REP), appendix D.

[334] Resolution 61/295, annex.

food security and the right to food, bearing in mind the need to avoid any negative impact on the enjoyment of the right to food for all people at all times;

16. *Requests* all States and private actors, as well as international organizations within their respective mandates, to take fully into account the need to promote the effective realization of the right to food for all, including in the ongoing negotiations in different fields;

17. *Recognizes* the need to strengthen national commitment as well as international assistance, upon the request of and in cooperation with the affected countries, towards the full realization and protection of the right to food, and in particular to develop national protection mechanisms for people forced to leave their homes and land because of hunger or humanitarian emergencies affecting the enjoyment of the right to food;

18. *Stresses* the need to make efforts to mobilize and optimize the allocation and utilization of technical and financial resources from all sources, including external debt relief for developing countries, and to reinforce national actions to implement sustainable food security policies;

19. *Calls for* the early conclusion and a successful, development-oriented outcome of the Doha Round of trade negotiations of the World Trade Organization as a contribution to creating international conditions that permit the full realization of the right to food;

20. *Stresses* that all States should make all efforts to ensure that their international policies of a political and economic nature, including international trade agreements, do not have a negative impact on the right to food in other countries;

21. *Recalls* the importance of the New York Declaration on Action against Hunger and Poverty, and recommends the continuation of efforts aimed at identifying additional sources of financing for the fight against hunger and poverty;

22. *Recognizes* that the promises made at the World Food Summit in 1996 to halve the number of persons who are undernourished are not being fulfilled, while recognizing the efforts of Member States in this regard, and invites once again all international financial and development institutions, as well as the relevant United Nations agencies and funds, to give priority to and provide the necessary funding to realize the aim of halving by 2015 the proportion of people who suffer from hunger, as well as the right to food as set out in the Rome Declaration on World Food Security[327] and the United Nations Millennium Declaration;[325]

23. *Reaffirms* that integrating food and nutritional support, with the goal that all people at all times will have access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food to meet their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life, is part of a comprehensive effort to improve public health, including the response to the spread of HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and other communicable diseases;

24. *Urges* States to give adequate priority in their development strategies and expenditures to the realization of the right to food;

25. *Stresses* the importance of international cooperation and development assistance as an effective contribution both to the expansion and improvement of agriculture and its environmental sustainability, food production, breeding projects on diversity of crops and livestock, and institutional innovations such as community seed banks, farmer field schools and seed fairs, and to the provision of humanitarian food assistance in activities related to emergency situations, for the realization of the right to food and the achievement of sustainable food security, while recognizing that each country has the primary responsibility for ensuring the implementation of national programmes and strategies in this regard;

26. *Also stresses* that States parties to the World Trade Organization Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights[335] should consider implementing that agreement in a manner supportive of food security, while mindful of the obligation of Member States to promote and protect the right to food;

27. *Calls upon* Member States, the United Nations system and other relevant stakeholders to support national efforts aimed at responding rapidly to the food crises currently occurring across Africa, and expresses its deep concern that funding shortfalls are forcing the World Food Programme to cut operations across different regions, including Southern Africa;

28. *Invites* all relevant international organizations, including the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, to continue to promote policies and projects that have a positive impact on the right to food, to ensure that partners respect the right to food in the implementation of common projects, to support strategies of Member States aimed at the fulfilment of the right to food and to avoid any actions that could have a negative impact on the realization of the right to food;

29. *Takes note with appreciation* of the interim report of the Special Rapporteur;[336]

30. *Supports* the realization of the mandate of the Special Rapporteur, as extended by the Human Rights Council in its resolution 6/2 of 27 September 2007;[337]

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[335] See *Legal Instruments Embodying the Results of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations, done at Marrakesh on 15 April 1994* (GATT secretariat publication, Sales No. GATT/1994-7).

[336] See A/64/170.

[337] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-third Session, Supplement* No. 53 (A/63/53), chap. I, sect. A.

31. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to provide all the human and financial resources necessary for the effective fulfilment of the mandate of the Special Rapporteur;

32. *Welcomes* the work already done by the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in promoting the right to adequate food, in particular its General Comment No. 12 (1999) on the right to adequate food (article 11 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights),[338] in which the Committee affirmed, inter alia, that the right to adequate food is indivisibly linked to the inherent dignity of the human person and is indispensable for the fulfilment of other human rights enshrined in the International Bill of Human Rights, and is also inseparable from social justice, requiring the adoption of appropriate economic, environmental and social policies, at both the national and the international levels, oriented to the eradication of poverty and the fulfilment of all human rights for all;

33. *Recalls* General Comment No. 15 (2002) of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on the right to water (articles 11 and 12 of the Covenant),[339] in which the Committee noted, inter alia, the importance of ensuring sustainable water resources for human consumption and agriculture in realization of the right to adequate food;

34. *Reaffirms* that the Voluntary Guidelines to Support the Progressive Realization of the Right to Adequate Food in the Context of National Food Security, adopted by the Council of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in November 2004,[329] represent a practical tool to promote the realization of the right to food for all, contribute to the achievement of food security and thus provide an additional instrument in the attainment of internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration;

35. *Welcomes* the continued cooperation of the High Commissioner, the Committee and the Special Rapporteur, and encourages them to continue their cooperation in this regard;

36. *Calls upon* all Governments to cooperate with and assist the Special Rapporteur in his task, to supply all necessary information requested by him and to give serious consideration to responding favourably to the requests of the Special Rapporteur to visit their countries to enable him to fulfil his mandate more effectively;

37. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur to submit an interim report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution and to continue his work, including by examining the emerging issues with regard to the realization of the right to food within his existing mandate;

38. *Invites* Governments, relevant United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, treaty bodies, civil society actors and non-governmental organizations, as well as the private sector, to cooperate fully with the Special Rapporteur in the fulfilment of his mandate, inter alia, through the submission of comments and suggestions on ways and means of realizing the right to food;

39. *Decides* to continue the consideration of the question at its sixty-fifth session under the item entitled "Promotion and protection of human rights".

RESOLUTION 64/160

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2009, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/439/Add.2 (Part II), para. 110),[340] by a recorded vote of 129 to 54, with 3 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago,

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[338] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2000, Supplement No. 2* and corrigendum (E/2000/22 and Corr.1), annex V.

[339] Ibid., *2003, Supplement No. 2* (E/2003/22), annex IV.

[340] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, China, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Philippines, Qatar, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Brazil, Chile, Singapore

64/160. Globalization and its impact on the full enjoyment of all human rights

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, and expressing, in particular, the need to achieve international cooperation in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction,

Recalling the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[341] as well as the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[342]

Recalling also the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights[343] and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[343]

Recalling further the Declaration on the Right to Development adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 41/128 of 4 December 1986,

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration[344] and the outcome documents of the twenty-third[345] and twenty-fourth[346] special sessions of the General Assembly, held in New York from 5 to 10 June 2000 and in Geneva from 26 June to 1 July 2000, respectively,

Recalling also its resolution 63/176 of 18 December 2008,

Recalling further Commission on Human Rights resolution 2005/17 of 14 April 2005 on globalization and its impact on the full enjoyment of all human rights,[347]

Recognizing that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated and that the international community must treat human rights globally in a fair and equal manner, on the same footing and with the same emphasis,

Realizing that globalization affects all countries differently and makes them more exposed to external developments, positive as well as negative, inter alia, in the field of human rights,

Realizing also that globalization is not merely an economic process, but that it also has social, political, environmental, cultural and legal dimensions, which have an impact on the full enjoyment of all human rights,

Emphasizing the need to fully implement the global partnership for development and enhance the momentum generated by the 2005 World Summit in order to operationalize and implement the commitments made in the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits, including the 2005 World Summit, in the economic, social and related fields, and reaffirming in particular the commitment contained in paragraphs 19 and 47 of the 2005 World Summit Outcome[348] to promote fair globalization and the development of the productive sectors in developing countries to enable them to participate more effectively in and benefit from the process of globalization,

Realizing the need to undertake a thorough, independent and comprehensive assessment of the social, environmental and cultural impact of globalization on societies,

Recognizing in each culture a dignity and value that deserve recognition, respect and preservation, convinced that, in their rich variety and diversity and in the reciprocal influences that they exert on one another, all cultures form part of the common heritage belonging to all humankind, and aware of the risk that globalization poses more of a threat to cultural diversity if the developing world remains poor and marginalized,

Recognizing also that multilateral mechanisms have a unique role to play in meeting the challenges and opportunities presented by globalization,

Emphasizing the global character of the migratory phenomenon, the importance of international, regional and bilateral cooperation and the need to protect the human rights of migrants, particularly at a time in which migration flows have increased in the globalized economy,

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[341] Resolution 217 A (III).

[342] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[343] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[344] See resolution 55/2.

[345] Resolution S-23/2, annex, and resolution S-23/3, annex.

[346] Resolution S-24/2, annex.

[347] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2005, Supplement No. 3* and corrigenda (E/2005/23 and Corr.1 and 2), chap. II, sect. A.

[348] See resolution 60/1.

Expressing concern at the negative impact of international financial turbulence on social and economic development and on the full enjoyment of all human rights, particularly in the light of the current global financial and economic crisis, which has an adverse impact on the realization of the internationally agreed development goals, particularly the health-related Millennium Development Goals,

Expressing deep concern at the negative impact of the rising global food and energy challenges and climate change on social and economic development and on the full enjoyment of all human rights for all,

Recognizing that globalization should be guided by the fundamental principles that underpin the corpus of human rights, such as equity, participation, accountability, non-discrimination at both the national and the international levels, respect for diversity, tolerance and international cooperation and solidarity,

Emphasizing that the existence of widespread extreme poverty inhibits the full realization and effective enjoyment of human rights, and that its immediate alleviation and eventual elimination must remain a high priority for the international community,

Strongly reiterating the determination to ensure the timely and full realization of the development goals and objectives agreed at the major United Nations conferences and summits, including those agreed at the Millennium Summit, that are described as the Millennium Development Goals, which have helped to galvanize efforts towards poverty eradication,

Deeply concerned at the inadequacy of measures to narrow the widening gap between the developed and the developing countries, and within countries, which has contributed to, inter alia, deepening poverty and has adversely affected the full enjoyment of all human rights, in particular in developing countries,

Underlining that human beings strive for a world that is respectful of human rights and cultural diversity and that, in this regard, they work to ensure that all activities, including those affected by globalization, are consistent with those aims,

1. *Recognizes* that, while globalization, by its impact on, inter alia, the role of the State, may affect human rights, the promotion and protection of all human rights is first and foremost the responsibility of the State;

2. *Emphasizes* that development should be at the centre of the international economic agenda and that coherence between national development strategies and international obligations and commitments is imperative for an enabling environment for development and an inclusive and equitable globalization;

3. *Reaffirms* that narrowing the gap between rich and poor, both within and between countries, is an explicit goal at the national and international levels, as part of the effort to create an enabling environment for the full enjoyment of all human rights;

4. *Also reaffirms* the commitment to create an environment at both the national and the global levels that is conducive to development and to the elimination of poverty by, inter alia, promoting good governance within each country and at the international level, avoiding protectionism, enhancing transparency in the financial, monetary and trading systems, and committing to an open, equitable, rule-based, predictable and non-discriminatory multilateral trading and financial system;

5. *Recognizes* that, while globalization offers great opportunities, the fact that its benefits are very unevenly shared and its costs unevenly distributed represents an aspect of the process that affects the full enjoyment of all human rights, in particular in developing countries;

6. *Welcomes* the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on globalization and its impact on the full enjoyment of human rights,[349] which focuses on the liberalization of agricultural trade and its impact on the realization of the right to development, including the right to food, and takes note of the conclusions and recommendations contained therein;

7. *Reaffirms* the international commitment to eliminating hunger and to securing food for all, today and tomorrow, and reiterates that the relevant United Nations organizations should be assured the resources needed to expand and enhance their food assistance, and support safety net programmes designed to address hunger and malnutrition, when appropriate, through the use of local or regional purchase;

8. *Calls upon* Member States, relevant agencies of the United Nations system, intergovernmental organizations and civil society to promote equitable and environmentally sustainable economic growth for managing globalization so that poverty is systematically reduced and the international development targets are achieved;

9. *Recognizes* that only through broad and sustained efforts, including policies and measures at the global level to create a shared future based upon our common humanity in all its diversity, can globalization be made fully inclusive and equitable and have a human face, thus contributing to the full enjoyment of all human rights;

10. *Underlines* the urgent need to establish an equitable, transparent and democratic international system to strengthen and broaden the participation of developing countries in international economic decision-making and norm-setting;

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[349] E/CN.4/2002/54.

11. *Affirms* that globalization is a complex process of structural transformation, with numerous interdisciplinary aspects, which has an impact on the enjoyment of civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development;

12. *Also affirms* that the international community should strive to respond to the challenges and opportunities posed by globalization in a manner that promotes and protects human rights while ensuring respect for the cultural diversity of all;

13. *Underlines*, therefore, the need to continue to analyse the consequences of globalization for the full enjoyment of all human rights;

14. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[350] and requests him to seek further the views of Member States and relevant agencies of the United Nations system and to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session a substantive report on the subject based on these views, including recommendations on ways to address the impact of globalization on the full enjoyment of all human rights.

RESOLUTION 64/161

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/439/Add.2 (Part II), para. 110)[351]

64/161. National institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions, the most recent of which is resolution 63/172 of 18 December 2008, and those of the Commission on Human Rights concerning national institutions and their role in the promotion and protection of human rights,

Welcoming the rapidly growing interest throughout the world in the creation and strengthening of independent, pluralistic national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights,

Recalling the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights ("the Paris Principles"),[352]

Reaffirming the important role that such national institutions play and will continue to play in promoting and protecting human rights and fundamental freedoms, in strengthening participation and the rule of law and in developing and enhancing public awareness of those rights and freedoms,

Recognizing the important role of the United Nations, in particular the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, in assisting the development of independent and effective national human rights institutions, guided by the Paris Principles, and recognizing also in this regard the potential for strengthened and complementary cooperation among the United Nations, the International Coordinating Committee of National Institutions for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights and those national institutions in the promotion and protection of human rights,

Recalling the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[353] which reaffirmed the important and constructive role played by national human rights institutions, in particular in their advisory capacity to the competent authorities and their role in preventing and remedying human rights violations, in disseminating information on human rights and in education in human rights,

Reaffirming that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interrelated, interdependent and mutually reinforcing, and that all human rights must be treated in a fair and equal manner, on the same footing and with the same emphasis,

Bearing in mind the significance of national and regional particularities and various historical, cultural and religious backgrounds, and that all States, regardless of their political, economic and cultural systems, have the duty to promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Recalling the programme of action adopted by national institutions, at their meeting held in Vienna in June 1993 during the World Conference on Human Rights,[354] for the promotion and protection of human rights, in which it was recommended that United Nations activities and programmes should be reinforced to meet the requests for assistance from States wishing to establish or strengthen their national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights,

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[350] A/64/265.

[351] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Canada, Cape Verde, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malta, Mexico, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Seychelles, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Vanuatu and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

[352] Resolution 48/134, annex.

[353] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[354] See A/CONF.157/NI/6.

Taking note with appreciation of the reports of the Secretary-General to the Human Rights Council on national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights[355] and on the accreditation process of the International Coordinating Committee,[356]

Welcoming the strengthening in all regions of regional cooperation among national human rights institutions, noting with appreciation the continuing work of the European Group of National Human Rights Institutions, the Network of National Institutions for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights in the Americas, the Asia-Pacific Forum of National Human Rights Institutions and the Network of African National Human Rights Institutions, and encouraging them to participate in the workshop on regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights to be organized by the Office of the High Commissioner in 2010,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General[357] and the conclusions contained therein;

2. *Reaffirms* the importance of the development of effective, independent and pluralistic national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights, in accordance with the Paris Principles;[352]

3. *Recognizes* the role of independent national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights in working together with Governments to ensure full respect for human rights at the national level, including by contributing to follow-up actions, as appropriate, to the recommendations resulting from the international human rights mechanisms;

4. *Welcomes* the increasingly important role of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights in supporting cooperation between their Governments and the United Nations in the promotion and protection of human rights;

5. *Recognizes* that, in accordance with the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action,[353] it is the right of each State to choose the framework for national institutions that is best suited to its particular needs at the national level in order to promote human rights in accordance with international human rights standards;

6. *Encourages* Member States to establish effective, independent and pluralistic national institutions or, where they already exist, to strengthen them for the promotion and protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, as outlined in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action;

7. *Welcomes* the growing number of States establishing or considering the establishment of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights;

8. *Encourages* national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights established by Member States to continue to play an active role in preventing and combating all violations of human rights as enumerated in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action and relevant international instruments;

9. *Recognizes* the role played by national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights in the Human Rights Council, including its universal periodic review mechanism, in both preparation and follow-up, and the special procedures, as well as in the human rights treaty bodies, in accordance with Council resolutions 5/1 and 5/2 of 18 June 2007[358] and Commission on Human Rights resolution 2005/74 of 20 April 2005;[359]

10. *Stresses* the importance of the financial and administrative independence and stability of national human rights institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights, and notes with satisfaction the efforts of those States that have provided their national institutions with more autonomy and independence, including by giving them an investigative role or enhancing such a role, and encourages other Governments to consider taking similar steps;

11. *Urges* the Secretary-General to continue to give high priority to requests from Member States for assistance in the establishment and strengthening of national human rights institutions;

12. *Underlines* the importance of the autonomy and independence of Ombudsman institutions, encourages increased cooperation between national human rights institutions and regional and international associations of Ombudsmen, also encourages Ombudsman institutions to actively draw on the standards enumerated in international instruments and the Paris Principles to strengthen their independence and increase their capacity to act as national human rights protection mechanisms, and in this regard reaffirms General Assembly resolution 63/169 of 18 December 2008 on the role of Ombudsman institutions;

13. *Commends* the high priority given by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to work on national human rights institutions, encourages the High

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[355] A/HRC/10/54.

[356] A/HRC/10/55.

[357] A/64/320.

[358] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/62/53), chap. IV, sect. A.

[359] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2005, Supplement No. 3* and corrigenda (E/2005/23 and Corr.1 and 2), chap. II, sect. A.

Commissioner, in view of the expanded activities relating to national institutions, to ensure that appropriate arrangements are made and budgetary resources provided to continue and further extend activities in support of national institutions, and invites Governments to contribute additional voluntary funds to that end;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the necessary assistance for holding international and regional meetings of national institutions, including meetings of the International Coordinating Committee of National Institutions for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, in cooperation with the Office of the High Commissioner;

15. *Encourages* national institutions, including Ombudsman institutions, to seek accreditation status through the International Coordinating Committee;

16. *Encourages* all Member States to take appropriate steps to promote the exchange of information and experience concerning the establishment and effective operation of national institutions;

17. *Encourages* all United Nations human rights mechanisms as well as agencies, funds and programmes to work within their respective mandates with Member States and national institutions in the promotion and protection of human rights with respect to, inter alia, projects in the area of good governance and the rule of law, and in this regard welcomes the efforts made by the High Commissioner to develop partnerships in support of national institutions;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 64/162

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/439/Add.2 (Part II), para. 110)[360]

64/162. Protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons

The General Assembly,

Recalling that internally displaced persons are persons or groups of persons who have been forced or obliged to flee or to leave their homes or places of habitual residence, in particular as a result of or in order to avoid the effects of armed conflict, situations of generalized violence, violations of human rights or natural or human-made disasters, and who have not crossed an internationally recognized State border,[361]

Recognizing that internally displaced persons are to enjoy, in full equality, the same rights and freedoms under international and domestic law as do other persons in their country,

Deeply disturbed by the alarmingly high numbers of internally displaced persons throughout the world, for reasons including armed conflict, violations of human rights and natural or human-made disasters, who receive inadequate protection and assistance, and conscious of the serious challenges that this is creating for the international community,

Recognizing that natural disasters are a cause of internal displacement, and concerned about factors, such as climate change, that are expected to exacerbate the impact of natural hazards, and climate-related slow-onset events,

Recognizing also that the consequences of hazards can be prevented or substantially mitigated by integrating disaster risk reduction strategies into national development policies and programmes,

Conscious of the human rights and humanitarian dimensions of the problem of internally displaced persons, including in long-term displacement situations, and the responsibilities of States and the international community to strengthen further their protection and assistance,

Emphasizing that States have the primary responsibility to provide protection and assistance to internally displaced persons within their jurisdiction, as well as to address the root causes of the displacement problem in appropriate cooperation with the international community,

Reaffirming that all persons, including those internally displaced, have the right to freedom of movement and residence and should be protected against being arbitrarily displaced,[362]

Noting the international community's growing awareness of the issue of internally displaced persons worldwide and the urgency of addressing the root causes of their displacement and finding durable solutions, including voluntary return in safety and with dignity, as well as voluntary local integration in the areas to which persons have been displaced or voluntary settlement in another part of the country,

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[360] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Burundi, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America and Zambia.

[361] See Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement (E/CN.4/1998/53/Add.2, annex), introduction, para. 2.

[362] See Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement, principle 6.

Recalling the relevant norms of international law, including international human rights law, international humanitarian law and international refugee law, and recognizing that the protection of internally displaced persons has been strengthened by identifying, reaffirming and consolidating specific standards for their protection, in particular through the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement,[363]

Noting, in this regard, that 2009 marks the sixtieth anniversary of the Geneva Conventions of 1949,[364] which constitute one vital legal framework for the protection of and assistance to civilians in armed conflict and under foreign occupation, including internally displaced persons,

Welcoming the adoption on 22 October 2009 of the African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa,[365] which marks a significant step towards strengthening the national and regional normative framework for the protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons,

Welcoming also the increasing dissemination, promotion and application of the Guiding Principles when dealing with situations of internal displacement,

Deploring practices of forced displacement and their negative consequences for the enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms by large groups of populations, and recalling the relevant provisions of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court that define the deportation or forcible transfer of population as a crime against humanity, and the unlawful deportation, transfer, or ordering the displacement of the civilian population as war crimes,[366]

Welcoming the cooperation established between the Representative of the Secretary-General on the human rights of internally displaced persons and national Governments, the relevant offices and agencies of the United Nations as well as with other international and regional organizations, and encouraging further strengthening of this collaboration in order to promote better strategies for, protection of, assistance to and durable solutions for internally displaced persons,

Acknowledging with appreciation the important and independent contribution of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and other humanitarian agencies in protecting and assisting internally displaced persons, in cooperation with relevant international bodies,

Recalling the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[367] regarding the need to develop global strategies to address the problem of internal displacement,

Recalling also its resolution 62/153 of 18 December 2007 and Human Rights Council resolution 6/32 of 14 December 2007,[368]

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Representative of the Secretary-General on the human rights of internally displaced persons[369] and the conclusions and recommendations contained therein;

2. *Commends* the Representative of the Secretary-General for the activities undertaken so far, for the catalytic role that he plays in raising the level of awareness about the plight of internally displaced persons and for his ongoing efforts to address their development and other specific needs, including through the mainstreaming of the human rights of internally displaced persons into all relevant parts of the United Nations system;

3. *Encourages* the Representative of the Secretary-General, through continuous dialogue with Governments and all intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned, to continue his analysis of the root causes of internal displacement and of the needs and human rights of those displaced, to continue the development of benchmarks for achieving durable solutions and measures of prevention, including early warning, as well as ways to strengthen protection, assistance and durable solutions for internally displaced persons, and to continue to promote comprehensive strategies, taking into account the primary responsibility of States for the protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons within their jurisdiction;

4. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations that have provided protection and assistance to internally displaced persons and have supported the work of the Representative of the Secretary-General;

5. *Calls upon* States to provide durable solutions, and encourages strengthened international cooperation, including through the provision of resources and expertise to assist affected countries, and in particular developing countries, in their national efforts and policies related to assistance, protection and rehabilitation for internally displaced persons;

6. *Expresses particular concern* at the grave problems faced by many internally displaced women and children,

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[363] E/CN.4/1998/53/Add.2, annex.

[364] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

[365] Available from www.africa-union.org.

[366] Art. 7, paras. 1 (*d*) and 2 (*d*), and art. 8, paras. 2 (*a*) (vii) and 2 (*e*) (viii) (see United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2187, No. 38544).

[367] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[368] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-third Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/63/53), chap. I, sect. A.

[369] See A/64/214.

including violence and abuse, sexual exploitation, trafficking in persons, forced recruitment and abduction, and encourages the continued commitment of the Representative of the Secretary-General to promote action to address their particular assistance, protection and development needs, as well as those of other groups with special needs, such as severely traumatized individuals, older persons and persons with disabilities, taking into account the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and of the Security Council and giving appropriate consideration to annex I to the report of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, entitled "Rights and guarantees for internally displaced children";[370]

7. *Emphasizes* the importance of consultation with internally displaced persons and host communities by Governments and other relevant actors, in accordance with their specific mandates, during all phases of displacement, as well as the participation of internally displaced persons, where appropriate, in programmes and activities pertaining to them, taking into account the primary responsibility of States for the protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons within their jurisdiction;

8. *Notes* the importance of taking the human rights and the specific protection and assistance needs of internally displaced persons into consideration, when appropriate, in peace processes, and emphasizes that durable solutions for internally displaced persons, including through voluntary return, sustainable reintegration and rehabilitation processes and their active participation, as appropriate, in the peace process, are necessary elements of effective peacebuilding;

9. *Welcomes* the role of the Peacebuilding Commission in this regard, and continues to urge the Commission to intensify its efforts, within its mandate, in cooperation with national and transitional Governments and in consultation with the relevant United Nations entities, to incorporate the rights and the specific needs of internally displaced persons, including their voluntary return in safety and with dignity, reintegration and rehabilitation, as well as related land and property issues, when advising on or proposing country-specific peacebuilding strategies for post-conflict situations in cases under consideration;

10. *Recognizes* the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement[363] as an important international framework for the protection of internally displaced persons, welcomes the fact that an increasing number of States, United Nations organizations and regional and non-governmental organizations are applying them as a standard, and encourages all relevant actors to make use of the Guiding Principles when dealing with situations of internal displacement;

11. *Welcomes* the ongoing use of the Guiding Principles by the Representative of the Secretary-General in his dialogue with Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and other relevant actors, and requests him to continue his efforts to further the dissemination, promotion and application of the Guiding Principles and to provide support for efforts to promote capacity-building and the use of the Guiding Principles, as well as the development of domestic legislation and policies;

12. *Encourages* States to continue to develop and implement domestic legislation and policies dealing with all stages of displacement, in an inclusive and non-discriminatory way, including through the identification of a national focal point within the Government for issues of internal displacement, and through the allocation of budget resources, and encourages the international community and national actors to provide financial support and cooperation to Governments, upon request, in this regard;

13. *Expresses its appreciation* that an increasing number of States have adopted domestic legislation and policies dealing with all stages of displacement;

14. *Urges* all Governments to continue to facilitate the activities of the Representative of the Secretary-General, in particular Governments with situations of internal displacement, and to respond favourably to requests from the Representative for visits so as to enable him to continue and enhance dialogue with Governments in addressing situations of internal displacement, and thanks those Governments that have already done so;

15. *Invites* Governments to give serious consideration, in dialogue with the Representative of the Secretary-General, to the recommendations and suggestions addressed to them, in accordance with his mandate, and to inform him of measures taken thereon;

16. *Calls upon* Governments to provide protection and assistance, including reintegration and development assistance, to internally displaced persons, and to facilitate the efforts of the relevant United Nations agencies and humanitarian organizations in these respects, including by further improving access to internally displaced persons and by maintaining the civilian and humanitarian character of camps and settlements for internally displaced persons where they exist;

17. *Emphasizes* the central role of the Emergency Relief Coordinator for the inter-agency coordination of protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons, welcomes continued initiatives taken in order to ensure better protection, assistance and development strategies for internally displaced persons, as well as better coordination of activities regarding them, and emphasizes the need to strengthen the capacities of the United Nations organizations and other relevant actors to meet the immense humanitarian challenges of internal displacement;

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[370] See A/64/254.

18. *Encourages* all relevant United Nations organizations and humanitarian assistance, human rights and development organizations to enhance their collaboration and coordination, through the Inter-Agency Standing Committee and United Nations country teams in countries with situations of internal displacement, and to provide all possible assistance and support to the Representative of the Secretary-General, and requests the continued participation of the Representative in the work of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee and its subsidiary bodies;

19. *Notes with appreciation* the increased attention paid to the issue of internally displaced persons in the consolidated appeals process, and encourages further efforts in this regard;

20. *Also notes with appreciation* the increasing role of national human rights institutions in assisting internally displaced persons and in promoting and protecting their human rights;

21. *Recognizes* the relevance of the global database on internally displaced persons advocated by the Representative of the Secretary-General, and encourages the members of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee and Governments to continue to collaborate on and support this effort, including by providing financial resources and relevant data on situations of internal displacement;

22. *Welcomes* the initiatives undertaken by regional organizations, such as the African Union, the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region, the Organization of American States and the Council of Europe, to address the protection, assistance and development needs of internally displaced persons and to find durable solutions for them, and encourages regional organizations to strengthen their activities and their cooperation with the Representative of the Secretary-General;

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide his Representative, from within existing resources, with all assistance necessary to carry out his mandate effectively, and encourages the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, in close cooperation with the Emergency Relief Coordinator, the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and all other relevant United Nations offices and agencies, to continue to support the Representative;

24. *Encourages* the Representative of the Secretary-General to continue to seek the contributions of States, relevant organizations and institutions in order to create a more stable basis for his work;

25. *Requests* the Representative of the Secretary-General to prepare, for the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth and sixty-sixth sessions, a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

26. *Decides* to continue its consideration of the question of protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons at its sixty-sixth session.

RESOLUTION 64/163

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/439/Add.2 (Part II), para. 110)[371]

64/163. Declaration on the Right and Responsibility of Individuals, Groups and Organs of Society to Promote and Protect Universally Recognized Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 53/144 of 9 December 1998, by which it adopted by consensus the Declaration on the Right and Responsibility of Individuals, Groups and Organs of Society to Promote and Protect Universally Recognized Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms annexed to that resolution, and reiterating the importance of the Declaration and its promotion and implementation,

Recalling also all previous resolutions on this subject, in particular its resolution 62/152 of 18 December 2007 and Human Rights Council resolution 7/8 of 27 March 2008,[372]

Noting with deep concern that in many countries persons and organizations engaged in promoting and defending human rights and fundamental freedoms frequently face threats and harassment and suffer insecurity as a result of those activities, including through restrictions on freedom of association or expression or the right to peaceful assembly, or abuse of civil or criminal proceedings,

Gravely concerned that, in some instances, national security and counter-terrorism legislation and other measures have been misused to target human rights defenders or have hindered their work and safety in a manner contrary to international law,

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[371] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Equatorial Guinea, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay and Vanuatu.

[372] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-third Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/63/53), chap. II.

Gravely concerned also by the continuing high level of human rights violations committed against persons engaged in promoting and defending human rights and fundamental freedoms around the world and by the fact that in many countries impunity for threats, attacks and acts of intimidation against human rights defenders persists and that this has a negative impact on their work and safety,

Gravely concerned further by the considerable number of communications received by the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the situation of human rights defenders that, together with the reports submitted by some of the other special procedure mechanisms, indicates the serious nature of the risks faced by human rights defenders, in particular women human rights defenders,

Stressing the important role that individuals, civil society organizations, non-governmental organizations, groups, organs of society and independent national institutions play in the promotion and protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, including in addressing all forms of human rights violations, combating impunity, fighting poverty and discrimination, and promoting access to justice, democracy, tolerance, human dignity and the right to development, and recalling that all have rights as well as responsibilities and duties within and towards the community,

Recognizing the substantial role that human rights defenders can play in supporting efforts to strengthen peace and development, through dialogue, openness, participation and justice, including by monitoring, reporting on and contributing to the promotion and protection of human rights,

Recalling that, in accordance with article 4 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[373] certain rights are recognized as non-derogable in any circumstances and that any measures derogating from other provisions of the Covenant must be in accordance with that article in all cases, and underlining the exceptional and temporary nature of any such derogations, as stated in General Comment No. 29 on states of emergency adopted by the Human Rights Committee on 24 July 2001,[374]

Welcoming the cooperation between the Special Rapporteur and other special procedures of the Human Rights Council, as well as other relevant United Nations bodies, offices, departments, specialized agencies and personnel, both at Headquarters and at the country level, within their mandates,

Welcoming also regional initiatives for the promotion and protection of human rights and the strengthened cooperation between international and regional mechanisms for the protection of human rights defenders, and encouraging further development in this regard,

Welcoming further the steps taken by some States towards adopting national policies or legislation for the protection of individuals, groups and organs of society engaged in promoting and defending human rights, including as follow-up to the universal periodic review mechanism of the Human Rights Council,

Recalling that the primary responsibility for promoting and protecting human rights rests with the State, reaffirming that national legislation consistent with the Charter of the United Nations and other international obligations of the State in the field of human rights and fundamental freedoms is the juridical framework within which human rights defenders conduct their activities, and noting with deep concern that the activities of some non-State actors pose a major threat to the security of human rights defenders,

Emphasizing the need for strong and effective measures for the protection of human rights defenders,

1. *Calls upon* all States to promote and give full effect to the Declaration on the Right and Responsibility of Individuals, Groups and Organs of Society to Promote and Protect Universally Recognized Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms,[375] including by taking, as appropriate, practical steps to that end;

2. *Welcomes* the reports of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the situation of human rights defenders[376] and her contribution to the effective promotion of the Declaration and the improvement of the protection of human rights defenders worldwide;

3. *Condemns* all human rights violations committed against persons engaged in promoting and defending human rights and fundamental freedoms around the world, and urges States to take all appropriate action, consistent with the Declaration and all other relevant human rights instruments, to prevent and eliminate such human rights violations;

4. *Calls upon* all States to take all measures necessary to ensure the protection of human rights defenders, at both the local and the national levels, including in times of armed conflict and peacebuilding;

5. *Calls upon* States to respect, protect and ensure the rights to freedom of expression and association of human rights defenders and in this regard to ensure, where procedures

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[373] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[374] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 40* (A/56/40), vol. I, annex VI.

[375] Resolution 53/144, annex.

[376] See A/63/288 and A/64/226.

governing registration of civil society organizations exist, that these are transparent, non-discriminatory, expeditious, inexpensive, allow for the possibility to appeal and avoid requiring re-registration, in accordance with national legislation, and are in conformity with international human rights law;

6. *Urges* States to ensure that any measures to combat terrorism and preserve national security are in compliance with their obligations under international law, in particular under international human rights law, and do not hinder the work and safety of individuals, groups and organs of society engaged in promoting and defending human rights;

7. *Also urges* States to take appropriate measures to address the question of impunity for attacks, threats and acts of intimidation, including cases of gender-based violence, against human rights defenders and their relatives, including by ensuring that complaints from human rights defenders are promptly investigated and addressed in a transparent, independent and accountable manner;

8. *Urges* all States to cooperate with and assist the Special Rapporteur in the performance of her mandate and to provide all information in a timely manner, as well as to respond without undue delay to communications transmitted to them by the Special Rapporteur;

9. *Calls upon* States to give serious consideration to responding favourably to the requests of the Special Rapporteur to visit their countries, and urges them to enter into a constructive dialogue with the Special Rapporteur with respect to the follow-up to and implementation of her recommendations, so as to enable the Special Rapporteur to fulfil her mandate even more effectively;

10. *Strongly encourages* States to translate the Declaration and to take measures to ensure its widest possible dissemination at the national and local levels;

11. *Encourages* States to promote awareness and training in regard to the Declaration in order to enable officials, agencies, authorities and members of the judiciary to observe the provisions of the Declaration and thus to promote better understanding and respect for individuals, groups and organs of society engaged in promoting and defending human rights, as well as for their work;

12. *Encourages* relevant United Nations bodies, including at the country level, within their respective mandates and working in cooperation with States, to give due consideration to the Declaration and to the reports of the Special Rapporteur, and in this context requests the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to draw the attention of all relevant United Nations bodies, including at the country level, to the reports of the Special Rapporteur;

13. *Requests* the Office of the High Commissioner, as well as other relevant United Nations bodies, offices, departments and specialized agencies, within their respective mandates, to consider ways in which they can assist States in strengthening the role and security of human rights defenders, including in situations of armed conflict and peacebuilding;

14. *Requests* all concerned United Nations agencies and organizations, within their mandates, to provide all possible assistance and support to the Special Rapporteur for the effective fulfilment of her mandate, including through country visits;

15. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur to continue to report annually on her activities to the General Assembly and to the Human Rights Council in accordance with her mandate;

16. *Decides* to consider the question at its sixty-sixth session under the item entitled "Promotion and protection of human rights".

RESOLUTION 64/164

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/439/Add.2 (Part II), para. 110)[377]

64/164. Elimination of all forms of intolerance and of discrimination based on religion or belief

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 36/55 of 25 November 1981, by which it proclaimed the Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief,

Recalling also article 18 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[378] article 18 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[379] and other relevant human rights provisions,

Recalling further its previous resolutions on the elimination of all forms of intolerance and of discrimination based on religion or belief, including resolution 63/181 of 18 December 2008, as well as Human Rights Council resolution 10/25 of 27 March 2009,[380]

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[377] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Seychelles, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay and Vanuatu.

[378] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[379] Resolution 217 A (III).

Recognizing the important work carried out by the Human Rights Committee in providing guidance with respect to the scope of the freedom of religion or belief,

Considering that religion or belief, for those who profess either, is one of the fundamental elements in their conception of life and that freedom of religion or belief should be fully respected and guaranteed,

Reaffirming that everyone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion or belief, which includes the freedom to have or to adopt a religion or belief of one's choice and the freedom, either alone or in community with others and in public or private, to manifest one's religion or belief in teaching, practice, worship and observance,

Deeply concerned at the limited progress that has been made in the elimination of all forms of intolerance and of discrimination based on religion or belief, and believing that further intensified efforts are therefore required to promote and protect the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion or belief and to eliminate all forms of hatred, intolerance and discrimination based on religion or belief, as also noted at the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, as well as at the Durban Review Conference,

Concerned that acts of violence, or credible threats of violence, against persons belonging to religious minorities are sometimes tolerated or encouraged by official authorities,

Expressing deep concern at all forms of discrimination and intolerance, including prejudices against persons and derogatory stereotyping of persons, based on religion or belief,

Concerned about the rise in the number of laws or regulations that limit the freedom of religion or belief and the implementation of existing laws in a discriminatory manner,

Convinced of the need to address the rise in various parts of the world of religious extremism that affects the rights of individuals, the situations of violence and discrimination that affect many women as well as other individuals on the grounds or in the name of religion or belief or in accordance with cultural and traditional practices, and the misuse of religion or belief for ends inconsistent with the Charter of the United Nations, as well as other relevant instruments of the United Nations,

Seriously concerned at all attacks on religious places, sites and shrines in violation of international law, in particular human rights and humanitarian law, including any deliberate destruction of relics and monuments,

Emphasizing that States, regional organizations, non-governmental organizations, religious bodies and the media have an important role to play in promoting tolerance and respect for religious and cultural diversity and in the universal promotion and protection of human rights, including freedom of religion or belief,

Underlining the importance of education in the promotion of tolerance, which involves the acceptance by the public of, and its respect for, diversity, including with regard to religious expression, and underlining also the fact that education, in particular at school, should contribute in a meaningful way to promoting tolerance and the elimination of discrimination based on religion or belief,

1. *Condemns* all forms of intolerance and of discrimination based on religion or belief, as well as violations of freedom of thought, conscience and religion or belief;

2. *Stresses* that the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion applies equally to all persons, regardless of their religions or beliefs, and without any discrimination as to their equal protection by the law;

3. *Emphasizes* that, as underlined by the Human Rights Committee, restrictions on the freedom to manifest one's religion or belief are permitted only if limitations are prescribed by law, are necessary to protect public safety, order, health or morals, or the fundamental rights and freedoms of others, are non-discriminatory and are applied in a manner that does not vitiate the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion;

4. *Also emphasizes* that freedom of religion or belief and freedom of expression are interdependent, interrelated and mutually reinforcing;

5. *Recognizes with deep concern* the overall rise in instances of intolerance and violence directed against members of many religious and other communities in various parts of the world, including cases motivated by Islamophobia, anti-Semitism and Christianophobia;

6. *Condemns* any advocacy of religious hatred that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence, whether it involves the use of print, audio-visual or electronic media or any other means;

7. *Expresses concern* over the persistence of institutionalized social intolerance and discrimination practised against many on the grounds of religion or belief, and emphasizes that legal procedures pertaining to religious or belief-based groups and places of worship are not a prerequisite for the exercise of the right to manifest one's religion or belief, and that such procedures, when legally required at the national or local level, should be non-discriminatory in order to contribute to the effective protection of the right of all persons to

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[380] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/64/53), chap. II, sect. A.

practise their religion or belief, either individually or in community with others and in public or private;

8. *Recognizes with concern* the situation of persons in vulnerable situations, including persons deprived of their liberty, refugees, asylum-seekers and internally displaced persons, children, persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities and migrants, as regards their ability to freely exercise their right to freedom of religion or belief;

9. *Emphasizes* that States have an obligation to exercise due diligence to prevent, investigate and punish acts of violence against persons belonging to religious minorities, regardless of the perpetrator, and that failure to do so may constitute a human rights violation;

10. *Also emphasizes* that no religion should be equated with terrorism, as this may have adverse consequences on the enjoyment of the right to freedom of religion or belief of all members of the religious communities concerned;

11. *Urges* States to step up their efforts to protect and promote freedom of thought, conscience and religion or belief, and to this end:

(*a*) To ensure that their constitutional and legislative systems provide adequate and effective guarantees of freedom of thought, conscience, religion and belief to all without distinction, inter alia, by the provision of effective remedies in cases where the right to freedom of thought, conscience, religion or belief, or the right to practise freely one's religion, including the right to change one's religion or belief, is violated;

(*b*) To ensure that no one within their jurisdiction is deprived of the right to life, liberty or security of person because of religion or belief and that no one is subjected to torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, or arbitrary arrest or detention on that account and to bring to justice all perpetrators of violations of these rights;

(*c*) To end violations of the human rights of women and to devote particular attention to abolishing practices that discriminate against women, including in the exercise of their right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion or belief;

(*d*) To ensure that no one is discriminated against on the basis of his or her religion or belief when accessing, inter alia, education, medical care, employment, humanitarian assistance or social benefits, and to ensure that everyone has the right and the opportunity to have access, on general terms of equality, to public services in one's country, without any discrimination on the basis of religion or belief;

(*e*) To review, whenever relevant, existing registration practices in order to ensure that such practices do not limit the right of all persons to manifest their religion or belief, either alone or in community with others and in public or private;

(*f*) To ensure that no official documents are withheld from the individual on the grounds of religion or belief and that everyone has the right to refrain from disclosing information concerning one's religious affiliation on such documents against one's will;

(*g*) To ensure, in particular, the right of all persons to worship, assemble or teach in connection with a religion or belief and their right to establish and maintain places for these purposes and the right of all persons to write, issue and disseminate relevant publications in these areas;

(*h*) To exert the utmost efforts, in accordance with their national legislation and in conformity with international human rights law, to ensure that religious places, sites, shrines and symbols are fully respected and protected and to take additional measures in cases where they are vulnerable to desecration and destruction;

(*i*) To ensure that, in accordance with appropriate national legislation and in conformity with international human rights law, the freedom of all persons and members of groups to establish and maintain religious, charitable or humanitarian institutions is fully respected and protected;

(*j*) To ensure that all public officials and civil servants, including members of law enforcement bodies and personnel of detention facilities, the military and educators, in the course of fulfilling their official duties, respect freedom of religion or belief and do not discriminate for reasons based on religion or belief, and that all necessary and appropriate awareness-raising, education or training is provided;

(*k*) To take all necessary and appropriate action, in conformity with international standards of human rights, to combat hatred, discrimination, intolerance and acts of violence, intimidation and coercion motivated by intolerance based on religion or belief, as well as incitement to hostility and violence, with particular regard to members of religious minorities in all parts of the world;

(*l*) To promote, through education and other means, understanding, tolerance, non-discrimination and respect in all matters relating to freedom of religion or belief by encouraging a wider knowledge in the society at large of the history, traditions, languages and culture of the various religious minorities existing within their jurisdiction;

(*m*) To prevent any distinction, exclusion, restriction or preference based on religion or belief which impairs the recognition, enjoyment or exercise of human rights and fundamental freedoms on an equal basis, and to detect signs of intolerance that may lead to discrimination based on religion or belief;

12. *Stresses* the importance of a continued and strengthened dialogue in all its forms, including among and within religions or beliefs, and with broader participation, including of women, to promote greater tolerance, respect and mutual understanding, and welcomes different initiatives in this regard, including the Alliance of Civilizations and the programmes led by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization;

13. *Welcomes and encourages* the continuing efforts of all actors in society, including non-governmental organizations and bodies and groups based on religion or belief, to promote the implementation of the Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief,[381] and further encourages their work in promoting freedom of religion or belief and in highlighting cases of religious intolerance, discrimination and persecution;

14. *Recommends* that States, the United Nations and other actors, including non-governmental organizations and bodies and groups based on religion or belief, in their efforts to promote freedom of religion or belief, ensure the widest possible dissemination of the text of the Declaration, in as many different languages as possible, and promote its implementation;

15. *Welcomes* the work and the interim report of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on freedom of religion or belief;[382]

16. *Urges* all Governments to cooperate fully with the Special Rapporteur, to respond favourably to her requests to visit their countries and to provide all necessary information for the effective fulfilment of her mandate;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the Special Rapporteur receives the resources necessary to fully discharge her mandate;

18. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur to submit an interim report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session;

19. *Decides* to consider the question of the elimination of all forms of religious intolerance at its sixty-fifth session under the item entitled "Promotion and protection of human rights".

RESOLUTION 64/165

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/439/Add.2 (Part II), para. 110)[383]

64/165. Subregional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 55/105 of 4 December 2000 concerning regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights,

Recalling also its resolutions 55/34 B of 20 November 2000 and 55/233 of 23 December 2000, section III of its resolution 55/234 of 23 December 2000, its resolution 56/253 of 24 December 2001 and its resolutions 58/176 of 22 December 2003, 59/183 of 20 December 2004, 60/151 of 16 December 2005, 61/158 of 19 December 2006, 62/221 of 22 December 2007 and 63/177 of 18 December 2008 on the Subregional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa,

Recalling further that the World Conference on Human Rights recommended that more resources be made available for the strengthening of regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights under the programme of technical cooperation in the field of human rights of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights,[384]

Recalling the report of the High Commissioner,[385]

Taking note of the holding of the twenty-eighth ministerial meeting of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa, in Libreville from 4 to 8 May 2009,

Taking note also of the report of the Secretary-General,[386]

Welcoming the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[387] in particular the decision confirmed therein to double the regular budget of the Office of the High Commissioner over the next five years,

1. *Welcomes* the activities of the Subregional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa at Yaoundé;

2. *Notes with satisfaction* the support provided for the establishment of the Centre by the host country;

3. *Takes note* of the implementation of the three-year strategy (2007–2009) for the Centre, which aims to reinforce its activities;[388]

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[381] See resolution 36/55.

[382] See A/64/159.

[383] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Austria, Belgium, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, France, Gabon, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Israel, Italy, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Morocco, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Portugal, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America and Zambia.

[384] See A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[385] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 36*, addendum (A/56/36/Add.1).

[386] A/64/333.

[387] See resolution 60/1.

[388] See A/62/317, paras. 14–19.

4. *Welcomes* the brainstorming session held in Yaoundé on 28 May 2009 between the Centre and the ambassadors of the subregion as well as the main Cameroonian ministries on possible orientations and activities of the Centre for the period 2009–2011, and encourages the Director of the Centre to institutionalize such exchanges in the future;

5. *Notes* the efforts of the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to ensure the full implementation of the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly[389] in order to provide sufficient funds and human resources for the missions of the Centre;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the High Commissioner to continue to provide additional funds and human resources within the existing resources of the Office of the High Commissioner to enable the Centre to respond positively and effectively to the growing needs in the promotion and protection of human rights and in developing a culture of democracy and the rule of law in the Central African subregion;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 64/166

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/439/Add.2 (Part II), para. 110)[390]

64/166. Protection of migrants

The General Assembly,

Recalling all its previous resolutions on the protection of migrants, the most recent of which is resolution 63/184 of 18 December 2008, and recalling also Human Rights Council resolution 12/6 of 1 October 2009,[391]

Reaffirming the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[392] which proclaims that all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights and that everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set out therein, without distinction of any kind, in particular as to race, colour or national origin,

Reaffirming also that everyone has the right to freedom of movement and residence within the borders of each State, and to leave any country, including his own, and return to his country,

Recalling the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights[393] and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[393] the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,[394] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[395] the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[396] the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,[397] the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,[398] the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations[399] and the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families,[400]

Recalling also the provisions concerning migrants contained in the outcome documents of all major United Nations conferences and summits, including the Outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development,[401] which recognizes that migrant workers are among the most vulnerable in the context of the current crisis,

Recalling further Commission on Population and Development resolutions 2006/2 of 10 May 2006[402] and 2009/1 of 3 April 2009,[403]

Taking note with appreciation of the United Nations Development Programme *Human Development Report 2009: Overcoming Barriers – Human Mobility and Development*,[404]

Taking note of advisory opinion OC-16/99 of 1 October 1999 on the Right to Information on Consular Assistance in the Framework of the Guarantees of the Due Process of Law and advisory opinion OC-18/03 of 17 September 2003 on the

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[389] See resolutions 61/158, 62/221 and 63/177.

[390] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea, Haiti, Honduras, Indonesia, Iraq, Jamaica, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Morocco, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Senegal, Seychelles, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Timor-Leste, Turkey, Uganda and Uruguay.

[391] See A/HRC/12/50, part one, chap. I.

[392] Resolution 217 A (III).

[393] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[394] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1465, No. 24841.

[395] Ibid., vol. 1249, No. 20378.

[396] Ibid., vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[397] Ibid., vol. 660, No. 9464.

[398] Resolution 61/106, annex I.

[399] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 596, No. 8638.

[400] Ibid., vol. 2220, No. 39481.

[401] Resolution 63/303, annex.

[402] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2006, Supplement No. 5* (E/2006/25), chap. I, sect. B.

[403] Ibid., *2009, Supplement No. 5* (E/2009/25), chap. I, sect. B.

[404] United Nations publication, Sales No. E.09.III.B.1.

Juridical Condition and Rights of Undocumented Migrants, issued by the Inter-American Court of Human Rights,

Taking note also of the Judgment of the International Court of Justice of 31 March 2004 in the case concerning *Avena and Other Mexican Nationals*,[405] and the Judgment of the Court of 19 January 2009 regarding the Request for interpretation of the *Avena* Judgment,[406] and recalling the obligations of States reaffirmed in both decisions,

Underlining the importance of the Human Rights Council in promoting respect for the protection of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all, including migrants,

Recognizing the increasing participation of women in international migration movements,

Recalling the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development, held in New York on 14 and 15 September 2006 for the purpose of discussing the multidimensional aspects of international migration and development, which recognized the relationship between international migration, development and human rights,

Noting the second and third meetings of the Global Forum on Migration and Development, held in Manila from 27 to 30 October 2008 and in Athens from 2 to 5 November 2009, respectively, recognizing the discussion on the theme "Inclusion, protection and acceptance of migrants in society: linking human rights and migrant empowerment for development" as a step to address the multidimensional nature of international migration, and taking note with appreciation of the generous offers of the Governments of Mexico and Spain to host the meetings of the Global Forum in 2010 and 2011, respectively,

Recognizing the cultural and economic contributions made by migrants to receiving societies and their communities of origin, as well as the need to identify appropriate means of maximizing development benefits and responding to the challenges which migration poses to countries of origin, transit and destination, especially in the light of the impact of the economic and financial crisis, and committing to ensuring dignified, humane treatment with applicable protections and to strengthening mechanisms for international cooperation,

Emphasizing the global character of the migratory phenomenon, the importance of international, regional and bilateral cooperation and dialogue in this regard, as appropriate, and the need to protect the human rights of migrants, particularly at a time in which migration flows have increased in the globalized economy and take place in a context of new security concerns,

Bearing in mind that policies and initiatives on the issue of migration, including those that refer to the orderly management of migration, should promote holistic approaches that take into account the causes and consequences of the phenomenon, as well as full respect for the human rights and fundamental freedoms of migrants,

Stressing the importance of regulations and laws regarding irregular migration being in accordance with the obligations of States under international law, including international human rights law,

Concerned about the large and growing number of migrants, especially women and children, who place themselves in a vulnerable situation by attempting to cross international borders without the required travel documents, and recognizing the obligation of States to respect the human rights of those migrants,

Stressing that penalties and the treatment given to irregular migrants should be commensurate with their infraction,

Recognizing the importance of having a comprehensive and balanced approach to international migration, and bearing in mind that migration enriches the economic, political, social and cultural fabric of States and the historical and cultural ties that exist among some regions,

Recognizing also the obligations of countries of origin, transit and destination under international human rights law,

Underlining the importance for States, in cooperation with non-governmental organizations, to undertake information campaigns aimed at clarifying opportunities, limitations and rights in the event of migration, so as to enable everyone to make informed decisions and to prevent anyone from utilizing dangerous means to cross international borders,

1. *Calls upon* States to promote and protect effectively the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all migrants, regardless of their migration status, especially those of women and children, and to address international migration through international, regional or bilateral cooperation and dialogue and through a comprehensive and balanced approach, recognizing the roles and responsibilities of countries of origin, transit and destination in promoting and protecting the human rights of all migrants, and avoiding approaches that might aggravate their vulnerability;

2. *Expresses its concern* over the impact of the current economic and financial crisis on international migration and migrants, and in that regard urges Governments to combat

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[405] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 4* (A/59/4), chap. V, sect. A.23; see also *Avena and Other Mexican Nationals (Mexico v. United States of America), Judgment, I.C.J. Reports 2004*, p. 12.

[406] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 4* (A/64/4), chap. V, sect. B.12. See also *Request for Interpretation of the Judgment of 31 March 2004 in the Case concerning* Avena and Other Mexican Nationals (Mexico v. United States of America) *(Mexico v. United States of America), Judgment* (available from www.icj-cij.org/docket/files/139/14939.pdf).

unfair and discriminatory treatment of migrants, particularly migrant workers and their families;

3. *Reaffirms* the rights set forth in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[392] and the obligations of States under the International Covenants on Human Rights,[393] and in this regard:

(*a*) Strongly condemns the manifestations and acts of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance against migrants and the stereotypes often applied to them, including on the basis of religion or belief, and urges States to apply and, where needed, reinforce the existing laws when xenophobic or intolerant acts, manifestations or expressions against migrants occur, in order to eradicate impunity for those who commit xenophobic and racist acts;

(*b*) Expresses concern at legislation and measures adopted by some States that may restrict the human rights and fundamental freedoms of migrants, and reaffirms that, when exercising their sovereign right to enact and implement migratory and border security measures, States have the duty to comply with their obligations under international law, including international human rights law, in order to ensure full respect for the human rights of migrants;

(*c*) Calls upon States to ensure that their laws and policies, including in the areas of counter-terrorism and combating transnational organized crime, such as trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants, fully respect the human rights of migrants;

(*d*) Calls upon States that have not done so to consider signing and ratifying or acceding to the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families[400] as a matter of priority, and requests the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to promote and raise awareness of the Convention;

(*e*) Takes note of the report of the Committee on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families on its ninth and tenth sessions;[407]

4. *Also reaffirms* the duty of States to effectively promote and protect the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all migrants, especially those of women and children, regardless of their immigration status, in conformity with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the international instruments to which they are party, and therefore:

(*a*) Calls upon all States to respect the human rights and the inherent dignity of migrants and to put an end to arbitrary arrest and detention and, where necessary, to review detention periods in order to avoid excessive detention of irregular migrants, and to adopt, where applicable, alternative measures to detention;

(*b*) Urges all States to adopt effective measures to prevent and punish any form of illegal deprivation of liberty of migrants by individuals or groups;

(*c*) Takes note with appreciation of the measures adopted by some States to reduce detention periods in cases of undocumented migration, in the application of domestic regulations and laws regarding irregular migration;

(*d*) Also takes note with appreciation of the successful implementation by some States of alternative measures to detention in cases of undocumented migration as a practice that deserves consideration by all States;

(*e*) Requests States to adopt concrete measures to prevent the violation of the human rights of migrants while in transit, including in ports and airports and at borders and migration checkpoints, to train public officials who work in those facilities and in border areas to treat migrants respectfully and in accordance with the law, and to prosecute, in conformity with applicable law, any act of violation of the human rights of migrants, inter alia, arbitrary detention, torture and violations of the right to life, including extrajudicial executions, during their transit from their country of origin to the country of destination and vice versa, including their transit through national borders;

(*f*) Underlines the right of migrants to return to their country of citizenship, and recalls that States must ensure that their returning nationals are duly received;

(*g*) Reaffirms emphatically the duty of States parties to ensure full respect for and observance of the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations,[399] in particular with regard to the right of all foreign nationals, regardless of their immigration status, to communicate with a consular official of the sending State in case of arrest, imprisonment, custody or detention, and the obligation of the receiving State to inform the foreign national without delay of his or her rights under the Convention;

(*h*) Requests all States, in conformity with national legislation and applicable international legal instruments to which they are party, to enforce labour law effectively, including by addressing violations of such law, with regard to migrant workers' labour relations and working conditions, inter alia, those related to their remuneration and conditions of health, safety at work and the right to freedom of association;

(*i*) Encourages all States to remove unlawful obstacles that may prevent the safe, transparent, unrestricted and expeditious transfer of remittances, earnings, assets and pensions of migrants to their country of origin or to any other countries, in conformity with applicable legislation, and to consider, as appropriate, measures to solve other problems that may impede such transfers;

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[407] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 48* (A/64/48).

(*j*) Recalls that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights recognizes that everyone has the right to an effective remedy by the competent national tribunals for acts violating the fundamental rights granted to him or her;

5. *Emphasizes* the importance of protecting persons in vulnerable situations, and in this regard:

(*a*) Welcomes immigration programmes, adopted by some countries, that allow migrants to integrate fully into the host countries, facilitate family reunification and promote a harmonious, tolerant and respectful environment, and encourages States to consider the possibility of adopting these types of programmes;

(*b*) Encourages all States to develop international migration policies and programmes that include a gender perspective, in order to adopt the measures necessary to better protect women and girls against dangers and abuse during migration;

(*c*) Calls upon States to protect the human rights of migrant children, given their vulnerability, particularly unaccompanied migrant children, ensuring that the best interests of the child are a primary consideration in their policies of integration, return and family reunification;

(*d*) Encourages all States to prevent and eliminate discriminatory policies that deny migrant children access to education;

(*e*) Urges States to ensure that repatriation mechanisms allow for the identification and special protection of persons in vulnerable situations, including persons with disabilities, and take into account, in conformity with their international obligations and commitments, the principle of the best interests of the child and family reunification;

(*f*) Urges States parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime[408] and supplementing protocols thereto, namely, the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air[409] and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children,[410] to implement them fully, and calls upon States that have not done so to consider ratifying or acceding to them as a matter of priority;

6. *Stresses* the importance of international, regional and bilateral cooperation in the protection of the human rights of migrants, and therefore:

(*a*) Requests all States, international organizations and relevant stakeholders to take into account in their policies and initiatives on migration issues the global character of the migratory phenomenon and to give due consideration to international, regional and bilateral cooperation in this field, including by undertaking dialogues on migration that include countries of origin, destination and transit, as well as civil society, including migrants, with a view to addressing, in a comprehensive manner, inter alia, its causes and consequences and the challenge of undocumented or irregular migration, granting priority to the protection of the human rights of migrants;

(*b*) Requests Member States, the United Nations system, international organizations, civil society and all relevant stakeholders, especially the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the human rights of migrants, to ensure that the perspective of the human rights of migrants is included among the priority issues in the ongoing discussions on international migration and development within the United Nations system, and in this regard underlines the importance of adequately taking into account the human rights perspective as one of the priorities of the informal thematic debate on international migration and development, to be held in 2011, as well as in the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development, which will take place during the sixty-eighth session of the General Assembly, in 2013, as decided by the Assembly in its resolution 63/225 of 19 December 2008;

(*c*) Invites the Chair of the Committee to address the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session under the item entitled "Promotion and protection of human rights";

(*d*) Invites the Special Rapporteur to submit his report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session under the item entitled "Promotion and protection of human rights";

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the resources necessary, from within existing resources of the United Nations, for the Committee to meet for a maximum of three weeks in one session or in two separate sessions in 2010, as required by the number of reports submitted to the Committee, and requests the Committee to further consider ways of improving the effectiveness of its working sessions and to report to the General Assembly on the use of its meeting time;

8. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session and to include in that report an analysis of the ways and means to promote the human rights of migrants, in particular children, and decides to examine the question further under the item entitled "Promotion and protection of human rights".

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[408] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2225, No. 39574.

[409] Ibid., vol. 2241, No. 39574.

[410] Ibid., vol. 2237, No. 39574.

RESOLUTION 64/167

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/439/Add.2 (Part II), para. 110)[411]

64/167. International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 61/177 of 20 December 2006, by which it adopted and opened for signature, ratification and accession the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance,

Recalling its resolution 47/133 of 18 December 1992, by which it adopted the Declaration on the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearances as a body of principles for all States,

Recalling also its resolution 63/186 of 18 December 2008, as well as relevant resolutions adopted by the Human Rights Council, including resolution 10/10 of 26 March 2009,[412] in which the Council took note of the report of the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances[413] and the recommendations contained therein,

Deeply concerned, in particular, by the increase in enforced or involuntary disappearances in various regions of the world, including arrest, detention and abduction, when these are part of or amount to enforced disappearances, and by the growing number of reports concerning harassment, ill-treatment and intimidation of witnesses of disappearances or relatives of persons who have disappeared,

Recalling that the Convention sets out the right of victims to know the truth regarding the circumstances of the enforced disappearance, the progress and results of the investigation and the fate of the disappeared person, and sets forth State party obligations to take appropriate measures in this regard,

Acknowledging that acts of enforced disappearance are recognized in the Convention as crimes against humanity, in certain circumstances,

Acknowledging also the valuable work of the International Committee of the Red Cross in promoting compliance with international humanitarian law in this field,

Recognizing that the entry into force of the Convention, as soon as possible, through its ratification by twenty States, and its implementation, will be a significant contribution to ending impunity and to the promotion and protection of all human rights for all,

1. *Welcomes* the adoption of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance;[414]

2. *Also welcomes* the fact that eighty-one States have signed the Convention and eighteen have ratified or acceded to it, and calls upon States that have not yet done so to consider signing and ratifying or acceding to the Convention as a matter of priority, as well as to consider the option provided for in articles 31 and 32 of the Convention regarding the Committee on Enforced Disappearances, with a view to its entry into force by December 2009;

3. *Further welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General;[415]

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to continue with their intensive efforts to assist States to become parties to the Convention, with a view to achieving universal adherence;

5. *Requests* United Nations agencies and organizations, and invites intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances, to continue undertaking efforts to disseminate information on the Convention, to promote understanding of it, to prepare for its entry into force and to assist States parties in implementing their obligations under this instrument;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session a report on the status of the Convention and the implementation of the present resolution.

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[411] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Senegal, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

[412] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/64/53), chap. II, sect. A.

[413] A/HRC/10/9 and Add.1.

[414] Resolution 61/177, annex.

[415] A/64/171.

RESOLUTION 64/168

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/439/Add.2 (Part II), para. 110)[416]

64/168. Protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming also the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[417]

Recalling the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action,[418]

Reaffirming the fundamental importance, including in response to terrorism and the fear of terrorism, of respecting all human rights and fundamental freedoms and the rule of law,

Reaffirming also that States are under the obligation to protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms of all persons,

Reiterating the important contribution of measures taken at all levels against terrorism, consistent with international law, in particular international human rights, refugee and humanitarian law, to the functioning of democratic institutions and the maintenance of peace and security and thereby to the full enjoyment of human rights, as well as the need to continue this fight, including through international cooperation and the strengthening of the role of the United Nations in this respect,

Deeply deploring the occurrence of violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms in the context of the fight against terrorism, as well as violations of international refugee and humanitarian law,

Noting with concern measures that can undermine human rights and the rule of law, such as the detention of persons suspected of acts of terrorism in the absence of a legal basis for detention and due process guarantees, the deprivation of liberty that amounts to placing a detained person outside the protection of the law, the trial of suspects without fundamental judicial guarantees, the illegal deprivation of liberty and transfer of individuals suspected of terrorist activities, and the return of suspects to countries without individual assessment of the risk of there being substantial grounds for believing that they would be in danger of subjection to torture, and limitations to effective scrutiny of counter-terrorism measures,

Stressing that all measures used in the fight against terrorism, including the profiling of individuals and the use of diplomatic assurances, memorandums of understanding and other transfer agreements or arrangements, must be in compliance with the obligations of States under international law, including international human rights, refugee and humanitarian law,

Recalling article 30 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and reaffirming that acts, methods and practices of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations are activities aimed at the destruction of human rights, fundamental freedoms and democracy, threatening the territorial integrity and security of States and destabilizing legitimately constituted Governments, and that the international community should take the necessary steps to enhance cooperation to prevent and combat terrorism,[419]

Reaffirming its unequivocal condemnation of all acts, methods and practices of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, wherever and by whomsoever committed, regardless of their motivation, as criminal and unjustifiable, and renewing its commitment to strengthen international cooperation to prevent and combat terrorism,

Recognizing that respect for all human rights, respect for democracy and respect for the rule of law are interrelated and mutually reinforcing,

Reaffirming that terrorism cannot and should not be associated with any religion, nationality, civilization or ethnic group,

Emphasizing the importance of properly interpreting and implementing the obligations of States with respect to torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, and of abiding strictly by the definition of torture contained in article 1 of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel,

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[416] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, Senegal, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Uganda, Ukraine, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Zambia and Zimbabwe.

[417] Resolution 217 A (III).

[418] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[419] See sect. I, para. 17, of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993 (A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III).

Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,[420] in the fight against terrorism,

Recalling its resolutions 57/219 of 18 December 2002, 58/187 of 22 December 2003, 59/191 of 20 December 2004, 60/158 of 16 December 2005, 61/171 of 19 December 2006, 62/159 of 18 December 2007 and 63/185 of 18 December 2008, Commission on Human Rights resolutions 2003/68 of 25 April 2003,[421] 2004/87 of 21 April 2004[422] and 2005/80 of 21 April 2005,[423] and other relevant resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly, the Commission on Human Rights and the Human Rights Council, including Council decision 2/112 of 27 November 2006[424] and Council resolutions 7/7 of 27 March 2008[425] and 10/15 of 26 March 2009,[426]

Recognizing the importance of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, adopted on 8 September 2006,[427] reaffirming that the promotion and protection of human rights for all and the rule of law are essential to the fight against terrorism, recognizing that effective counter-terrorism measures and the protection of human rights are not conflicting goals but complementary and mutually reinforcing, and stressing the need to promote and protect the rights of victims of terrorism,

Recalling Human Rights Council resolution 6/28 of 14 December 2007,[428] by which the Council decided to extend the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism,

1. *Reaffirms* that States must ensure that any measure taken to combat terrorism complies with their obligations under international law, in particular international human rights, refugee and humanitarian law;

2. *Deeply deplores* the suffering caused by terrorism to the victims and their families, expresses its profound solidarity with them, and stresses the importance of providing them with assistance;

3. *Expresses serious concern* at the occurrence of violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms, as well as international refugee and humanitarian law, committed in the context of countering terrorism;

4. *Reaffirms* that counter-terrorism measures should be implemented in accordance with international law, including international human rights, refugee and humanitarian law, thereby taking into full consideration the human rights of all, including persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities, and in this regard must not be discriminatory on grounds such as race, colour, sex, language, religion or social origin;

5. *Also reaffirms* the obligation of States, in accordance with article 4 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[429] to respect certain rights as non-derogable in any circumstances, recalls, in regard to all other Covenant rights, that any measures derogating from the provisions of the Covenant must be in accordance with that article in all cases, and underlines the exceptional and temporary nature of any such derogations,[430] and in this regard calls upon States to raise awareness about the importance of these obligations among national authorities involved in combating terrorism;

6. *Urges* States, while countering terrorism:

(*a*) To fully comply with their obligations under international law, in particular international human rights, refugee and humanitarian law, with regard to the absolute prohibition of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment;

(*b*) To take all necessary steps to ensure that persons deprived of liberty, regardless of the place of arrest or detention, benefit from the guarantees to which they are entitled under international law, including the review of the detention and other fundamental judicial guarantees;

(*c*) To ensure that no form of deprivation of liberty places a detained person outside the protection of the law, and to respect the safeguards concerning the liberty, security and dignity of the person, in accordance with international law, including international human rights and humanitarian law;

(*d*) To treat all prisoners in all places of detention in accordance with international law, including international human rights and humanitarian law;

(*e*) To respect the right of persons to equality before the law, courts and tribunals and to a fair trial as provided for in international law, including international human rights law, such as the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and international humanitarian and refugee law;

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[420] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1465, No. 24841.

[421] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2003, Supplement No. 3* (E/2003/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[422] Ibid., *2004, Supplement No. 3* (E/2004/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[423] Ibid., *2005, Supplement No. 3* and corrigenda (E/2005/23 and Corr.1 and 2), chap. II, sect. A.

[424] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/62/53), chap. I, sect. B.

[425] Ibid., *Sixty-third Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/63/53), chap. II.

[426] Ibid., *Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/64/53), chap. II, sect. A.

[427] Resolution 60/288.

[428] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-third Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/63/53), chap. I, sect. A.

[429] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[430] See, for example, General Comment No. 29 on states of emergency adopted by the Human Rights Committee on 24 July 2001.

(*f*) To protect all human rights, including economic, social and cultural rights, bearing in mind that certain counter-terrorism measures may have an impact on the enjoyment of these rights;

(*g*) To ensure that guidelines and practices in all border control operations and other pre-entry mechanisms are clear and fully respect their obligations under international law, particularly international refugee and human rights law, towards persons seeking international protection;

(*h*) To fully respect non-refoulement obligations under international refugee and human rights law and, at the same time, to review, with full respect for these obligations and other legal safeguards, the validity of a refugee status decision in an individual case if credible and relevant evidence comes to light that indicates that the person in question has committed any criminal acts, including terrorist acts, falling under the exclusion clauses under international refugee law;

(*i*) To refrain from returning persons, including in cases related to terrorism, to their countries of origin or to a third State whenever such transfer would be contrary to their obligations under international law, in particular international human rights, humanitarian and refugee law, including in cases where there are substantial grounds for believing that they would be in danger of subjection to torture, or where their life or freedom would be threatened in violation of international refugee law on account of their race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion, bearing in mind obligations that States may have to prosecute individuals not returned;

(*j*) Insofar as such an act runs contrary to their obligations under international law, not to expose individuals to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment by way of return to another country;

(*k*) To ensure that their laws criminalizing acts of terrorism are accessible, formulated with precision, non-discriminatory, non-retroactive and in accordance with international law, including human rights law;

(*l*) Not to resort to profiling based on stereotypes founded on grounds of discrimination prohibited by international law, including on racial, ethnic and/or religious grounds;

(*m*) To ensure that the interrogation methods used against terrorism suspects are consistent with their international obligations and are reviewed to prevent the risk of violations of their obligations under international law, including international human rights, refugee and humanitarian law;

(*n*) To ensure that any person whose human rights or fundamental freedoms have been violated has access to an effective remedy and that victims receive adequate, effective and prompt reparations, where appropriate, including by bringing to justice those responsible for such violations;

(*o*) To ensure due process guarantees, consistent with all relevant provisions of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[417] and their obligations under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the Geneva Conventions of 1949[431] and the Additional Protocols thereto, of 1977,[432] and the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees [433] and the 1967 Protocol thereto [434] in their respective fields of applicability;

(*p*) To shape and implement all counter-terrorism measures in accordance with the principles of gender equality and non-discrimination;

7. *Encourages* States, while countering terrorism, to take into account relevant United Nations resolutions and decisions on human rights, and encourages them to give due consideration to the recommendations of the special procedures and mechanisms of the Human Rights Council and to the relevant comments and views of United Nations human rights treaty bodies;

8. *Acknowledges* the adoption of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance in its resolution 61/177 of 20 December 2006, and recognizes that the entry into force of the Convention and its implementation will be an important step in support of the rule of law in countering terrorism;

9. *Recognizes* the need to continue ensuring that fair and clear procedures under the United Nations terrorism-related sanctions regime are strengthened in order to enhance their efficiency and transparency, and welcomes and encourages the ongoing efforts of the Security Council in support of these objectives, including by continuing to review all the names of individuals and entities in the regime, while emphasizing the importance of these sanctions in countering terrorism;

10. *Urges* States, while ensuring full compliance with their international obligations, to ensure the rule of law and to include adequate human rights guarantees in their national procedures for the listing of individuals and entities with a view to combating terrorism;

11. *Requests* the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Special Rapporteur

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[431] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

[432] Ibid., vol. 1125, Nos. 17512 and 17513.

[433] Ibid., vol. 189, No. 2545.

[434] Ibid., vol. 606, No. 8791.

of the Human Rights Council on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism to continue to contribute to the work of the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force, including by raising awareness about the need to respect human rights and the rule of law while countering terrorism;

12. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on protecting human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism[435] and the previous work of the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism undertaken in accordance with his mandate, based on Commission on Human Rights resolution 2005/80 of 21 April 2005,[423] and Human Rights Council resolutions 5/1 and 5/2 of 18 June 2007[436] and 6/28 of 14 December 2007;[428]

13. *Welcomes* the ongoing dialogue established in the context of the fight against terrorism between the Security Council and its Counter-Terrorism Committee and the relevant bodies for the promotion and protection of human rights, and encourages the Security Council and its Counter-Terrorism Committee to strengthen the links, cooperation and dialogue with relevant human rights bodies, in particular with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism, other relevant special procedures and mechanisms of the Human Rights Council, and relevant treaty bodies, giving due regard to the promotion and protection of human rights and the rule of law in the ongoing work pursuant to relevant Security Council resolutions relating to terrorism;

14. *Calls upon* States and other relevant actors, as appropriate, to continue to implement the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy,[427] which, inter alia, reaffirms respect for human rights for all and the rule of law as the fundamental basis of the fight against terrorism;

15. *Requests* the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force to continue its efforts to ensure that the United Nations can better coordinate and enhance its support to Member States in their efforts to comply with their obligations under international law, including international human rights, refugee and humanitarian law, while countering terrorism;

16. *Encourages* relevant United Nations bodies and entities and international, regional and subregional organizations, in particular those participating in the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force, which provide technical assistance, upon request, consistent with their mandates and as appropriate, related to the prevention and suppression of terrorism to step up their efforts to ensure, as an element of technical assistance, respect for international human rights, refugee and humanitarian law, as well as the rule of law;

17. *Urges* relevant United Nations bodies and entities and international, regional and subregional organizations, including the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, within its mandate related to the prevention and suppression of terrorism, to step up their efforts to provide, upon request, technical assistance for building the capacity of Member States in the development and implementation of programmes of assistance and support for victims of terrorism in accordance with relevant national legislation;

18. *Calls upon* international, regional and subregional organizations to strengthen information-sharing, coordination and cooperation in promoting the protection of human rights, fundamental freedoms and the rule of law while countering terrorism;

19. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism to make recommendations in the context of his mandate, with regard to preventing, combating and redressing violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms in the context of countering terrorism;

20. *Requests* all Governments to cooperate fully with the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism in the performance of the tasks and duties mandated, including by reacting promptly to the urgent appeals of the Special Rapporteur and providing the information requested, and to give serious consideration to responding favourably to his requests to visit their countries, as well as to cooperate with other relevant procedures and mechanisms of the Human Rights Council regarding the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism;

21. *Welcomes* the work of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to implement the mandate given to her in 2005, in resolution 60/158, and requests the High Commissioner to continue her efforts in this regard;

22. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution to the Human Rights Council and to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session;

23. *Decides* to consider at its sixty-fifth session the report of the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism.

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[435] A/64/186.

[436] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/62/53), chap. IV, sect. A.

RESOLUTION 64/169

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/439/Add.2 (Part II), para. 110)[437]

64/169. International Year for People of African Descent

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[438] which proclaims that all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights and that everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set forth therein, without distinction of any kind,

Recalling the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[439] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[439] the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,[440] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[441] the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[442] the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families,[443] the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities[444] and other relevant international human rights instruments,

Recalling also the relevant provisions of the outcomes of all major United Nations conferences and summits, in particular the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action[445] and the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action,[446]

Recalling further its resolutions 62/122 of 17 December 2007, 63/5 of 20 October 2008 and 64/15 of 16 November 2009 on the permanent memorial to and remembrance of the victims of slavery and the transatlantic slave trade,

1. *Proclaims* the year beginning on 1 January 2011 the International Year for People of African Descent, with a view to strengthening national actions and regional and international cooperation for the benefit of people of African descent in relation to their full enjoyment of economic, cultural, social, civil and political rights, their participation and integration in all political, economic, social and cultural aspects of society, and the promotion of a greater knowledge of and respect for their diverse heritage and culture;

2. *Encourages* Member States, the specialized agencies of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates and existing resources, and civil society to make preparations for and identify possible initiatives that can contribute to the success of the Year;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session a report containing a draft programme of activities for the Year, taking into account the views and recommendations of Member States, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, the Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent of the Human Rights Council and other relevant United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, as appropriate.

RESOLUTION 64/170

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2009, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/439/Add.2 (Part II), para. 110),[447] by a recorded vote of 132 to 54, with no abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

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[437] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Argentina, Belarus, Belize, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Guatemala, Honduras, India, Panama, Peru, Senegal, United States of America and Uruguay.

[438] Resolution 217 A (III).

[439] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[440] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 660, No. 9464.

[441] Ibid., vol. 1249, No. 20378.

[442] Ibid., vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[443] Ibid., vol. 2220, No. 39481.

[444] Resolution 61/106, annex I.

[445] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[446] See A/CONF.189/12 and Corr.1, chap. I.

[447] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by China, and Cuba (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries).

Against: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: None

64/170. Human rights and unilateral coercive measures

The General Assembly,

Recalling all its previous resolutions on this subject, the most recent of which was resolution 63/179 of 18 December 2008, Human Rights Council resolution 12/22 of 2 October 2009[448] and previous resolutions of the Council and the Commission on Human Rights,

Reaffirming the pertinent principles and provisions contained in the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States proclaimed by the General Assembly in its resolution 3281 (XXIX) of 12 December 1974, in particular article 32 thereof, in which it declared that no State may use or encourage the use of economic, political or any other type of measures to coerce another State in order to obtain from it the subordination of the exercise of its sovereign rights,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to General Assembly resolution 63/179[449] and the reports of the Secretary-General on the implementation of Assembly resolutions 52/120 of 12 December 1997[450] and 55/110 of 4 December 2000,[451]

Stressing that unilateral coercive measures and legislation are contrary to international law, international humanitarian law, the Charter of the United Nations and the norms and principles governing peaceful relations among States,

Recognizing the universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated character of all human rights, and in this regard reaffirming the right to development as an integral part of all human rights,

Recalling the Final Document of the Fifteenth Summit Conference of Heads of State and Government of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, from 11 to 16 July 2009[452] and those adopted at previous summits and conferences, in which States members of the Movement agreed to oppose and condemn those measures or laws and their continued application, persevere with efforts to effectively reverse them and urge other States to do likewise, as called for by the General Assembly and other United Nations organs, and request States applying those measures or laws to revoke them fully and immediately,

Recalling also that at the World Conference on Human Rights, held in Vienna from 14 to 25 June 1993, States were called upon to refrain from any unilateral measure not in accordance with international law and the Charter that creates obstacles to trade relations among States and impedes the full realization of all human rights,[453] and also severely threatens the freedom of trade,

Bearing in mind all the references to this question in the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development adopted by the World Summit for Social Development on 12 March 1995,[454] the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women on 15 September 1995,[455] the Istanbul Declaration on Human Settlements and the Habitat Agenda adopted by the second United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) on 14 June 1996,[456] and their five-year reviews,

Expressing concern about the negative impact of unilateral coercive measures on international relations, trade, investment and cooperation,

Expressing grave concern that, in some countries, the situation of children is adversely affected by unilateral coercive measures not in accordance with international law and the Charter that create obstacles to trade relations among States, impede the full realization of social and economic development and hinder the well-being of the population in the affected countries, with particular consequences for women and children, including adolescents,

Deeply concerned that, despite the recommendations adopted on this question by the General Assembly, the Human Rights Council, the Commission on Human Rights and recent major United Nations conferences, and contrary to general international law and the Charter, unilateral coercive measures continue to be promulgated and implemented with all their negative implications for the social humanitarian activities and economic and social development of developing countries, including their extraterritorial effects, thereby creating additional obstacles to the full enjoyment of all human rights by peoples and individuals under the jurisdiction of other States,

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[448] See A/HRC/12/50, part one, chap. I.

[449] A/64/219.

[450] A/53/293 and Add.1.

[451] A/56/207 and Add.1.

[452] A/63/965-S/2009/514, annex.

[453] See A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[454] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6–12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[455] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[456] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), Istanbul, 3–14 June 1996* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.IV.6), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

Bearing in mind all the extraterritorial effects of any unilateral legislative, administrative and economic measures, policies and practices of a coercive nature against the development process and the enhancement of human rights in developing countries, which create obstacles to the full realization of all human rights,

Reaffirming that unilateral coercive measures are a major obstacle to the implementation of the Declaration on the Right to Development,[457]

Recalling article 1, paragraph 2, common to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights[458] and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[458] which provides, inter alia, that in no case may a people be deprived of its own means of subsistence,

Noting the continuing efforts of the open-ended Working Group on the Right to Development of the Human Rights Council, and reaffirming in particular its criteria, according to which unilateral coercive measures are one of the obstacles to the implementation of the Declaration on the Right to Development,

1. *Urges* all States to cease adopting or implementing any unilateral measures not in accordance with international law, the Charter of the United Nations and the norms and principles governing peaceful relations among States, in particular those of a coercive nature with all their extraterritorial effects, which create obstacles to trade relations among States, thus impeding the full realization of the rights set forth in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[459] and other international human rights instruments, in particular the right of individuals and peoples to development;

2. *Also urges* all States not to adopt any unilateral measures not in accordance with international law and the Charter that impede the full achievement of economic and social development by the population of the affected countries, in particular children and women, that hinder their well-being and that create obstacles to the full enjoyment of their human rights, including the right of everyone to a standard of living adequate for his or her health and well-being and his or her right to food, medical care and the necessary social services, as well as to ensure that food and medicine are not used as tools for political pressure;

3. *Strongly objects* to the extraterritorial nature of those measures which, in addition, threaten the sovereignty of States, and in this context calls upon all Member States neither to recognize those measures nor to apply them, as well as to take administrative or legislative measures, as appropriate, to counteract the extraterritorial applications or effects of unilateral coercive measures;

4. *Condemns* the continuing unilateral application and enforcement by certain Powers of unilateral coercive measures, and rejects those measures with all their extraterritorial effects as being tools for political or economic pressure against any country, in particular against developing countries, adopted with a view to preventing those countries from exercising their right to decide, of their own free will, their own political, economic and social systems, and because of the negative effects of those measures on the realization of all the human rights of vast sectors of their populations, in particular children, women and the elderly;

5. *Reaffirms* that essential goods such as food and medicines should not be used as tools for political coercion and that under no circumstances should people be deprived of their own means of subsistence and development;

6. *Calls upon* Member States that have initiated such measures to abide by the principles of international law, the Charter, the declarations of the United Nations and world conferences and relevant resolutions and to commit themselves to their obligations and responsibilities arising from the international human rights instruments to which they are parties by revoking such measures at the earliest possible time;

7. *Reaffirms*, in this context, the right of all peoples to self-determination, by virtue of which they freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development;

8. *Recalls* that, according to the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, contained in the annex to General Assembly resolution 2625 (XXV) of 24 October 1970, and the relevant principles and provisions contained in the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States proclaimed by the Assembly in its resolution 3281 (XXIX), in particular article 32 thereof, no State may use or encourage the use of economic, political or any other type of measures to coerce another State in order to obtain from it the subordination of the exercise of its sovereign rights and to secure from it advantages of any kind;

9. *Rejects* all attempts to introduce unilateral coercive measures, and urges the Human Rights Council to take fully

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[457] Resolution 41/128, annex.

[458] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[459] Resolution 217 A (III).

into account the negative impact of those measures, including through the enactment of national laws and their extraterritorial application which are not in conformity with international law, in its task concerning the implementation of the right to development;

10. *Requests* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, in discharging her functions relating to the promotion, realization and protection of the right to development and bearing in mind the continuing impact of unilateral coercive measures on the population of developing countries, to give priority to the present resolution in her annual report to the General Assembly;

11. *Underlines* the fact that unilateral coercive measures are one of the major obstacles to the implementation of the Declaration on the Right to Development,[457] and in this regard calls upon all States to avoid the unilateral imposition of economic coercive measures and the extraterritorial application of domestic laws that run counter to the principles of free trade and hamper the development of developing countries, as recognized by the Working Group on the Right to Development of the Human Rights Council;

12. *Recognizes* that, in the Declaration of Principles adopted at the first phase of the World Summit on the Information Society, held in Geneva from 10 to 12 December 2003,[460] States were strongly urged to avoid and refrain from any unilateral measure not in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations in building the information society;

13. *Supports* the invitation of the Human Rights Council to all special rapporteurs and existing thematic mechanisms of the Council in the field of economic, social and cultural rights to pay due attention, within the scope of their respective mandates, to the negative impact and consequences of unilateral coercive measures;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of all Member States, to continue to collect their views and information on the implications and negative effects of unilateral coercive measures on their populations and to submit an analytical report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session, while reiterating once again the need to highlight the practical and preventive measures in this respect;

15. *Decides* to examine the question on a priority basis at its sixty-fifth session under the sub-item entitled "Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms".

RESOLUTION 64/171

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/439/Add.2 (Part II), para. 110)[461]

64/171. Enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its commitment to promoting international cooperation, as set forth in the Charter of the United Nations, in particular Article 1, paragraph 3, as well as relevant provisions of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993[462] for enhancing genuine cooperation among Member States in the field of human rights,

Recalling its adoption of the United Nations Millennium Declaration on 8 September 2000[463] and of its resolution 63/180 of 18 December 2008, Human Rights Council resolution 10/6 of 26 March 2009[464] and the resolutions of the Commission on Human Rights on the enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights,

Recalling also the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, held at Durban, South Africa, from 31 August to 8 September 2001, and the Durban Review Conference, held at Geneva from 20 to 24 April 2009, and their role in the enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights,

Recognizing that the enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights is essential for the full achievement of the purposes of the United Nations, including the effective promotion and protection of all human rights,

Recognizing also that the promotion and protection of human rights should be based on the principle of cooperation and genuine dialogue and aimed at strengthening the capacity of Member States to comply with their human rights obligations for the benefit of all human beings,

Reaffirming that dialogue among religions, cultures and civilizations in the field of human rights could contribute greatly to the enhancement of international cooperation in this field,

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[460] A/C.2/59/3, annex, chap. I, sect. A.

[461] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by China, and Cuba (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries).

[462] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[463] See resolution 55/2.

[464] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/64/53), chap. II, sect. A.

Emphasizing the need for further progress in the promotion and encouragement of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms through, inter alia, international cooperation,

Underlining the fact that mutual understanding, dialogue, cooperation, transparency and confidence-building are important elements in all activities for the promotion and protection of human rights,

Recalling the adoption of resolution 2000/22 of 18 August 2000, on the promotion of dialogue on human rights issues, by the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights at its fifty-second session,[465]

1. *Reaffirms* that it is one of the purposes of the United Nations and the responsibility of all Member States to promote, protect and encourage respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms through, inter alia, international cooperation;

2. *Recognizes* that, in addition to their separate responsibilities to their individual societies, States have a collective responsibility to uphold the principles of human dignity, equality and equity at the global level;

3. *Reaffirms* that dialogue among cultures and civilizations facilitates the promotion of a culture of tolerance and respect for diversity, and welcomes in this regard the holding of conferences and meetings at the national, regional and international levels on dialogue among civilizations;

4. *Urges* all actors on the international scene to build an international order based on inclusion, justice, equality and equity, human dignity, mutual understanding and promotion of and respect for cultural diversity and universal human rights, and to reject all doctrines of exclusion based on racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

5. *Reaffirms* the importance of the enhancement of international cooperation for the promotion and protection of human rights and for the achievement of the objectives of the fight against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

6. *Considers* that international cooperation in the field of human rights, in conformity with the purposes and principles set out in the Charter of the United Nations and international law, should make an effective and practical contribution to the urgent task of preventing violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

7. *Reaffirms* that the promotion, protection and full realization of all human rights and fundamental freedoms should be guided by the principles of universality, non-selectivity, objectivity and transparency, in a manner consistent with the purposes and principles set out in the Charter;

8. *Calls upon* Member States, the specialized agencies and intergovernmental organizations to continue to carry out a constructive dialogue and consultations for the enhancement of understanding and the promotion and protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, and encourages non-governmental organizations to contribute actively to this endeavour;

9. *Invites* States and relevant United Nations human rights mechanisms and procedures to continue to pay attention to the importance of mutual cooperation, understanding and dialogue in ensuring the promotion and protection of all human rights;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in collaboration with the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, to consult States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations on ways and means, as well as obstacles and challenges and possible proposals to overcome them, for the enhancement of international cooperation and dialogue in the United Nations human rights machinery, including the Human Rights Council;

11. *Decides* to continue its consideration of the question at its sixty-fifth session.

RESOLUTION 64/172

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2009, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/439/Add.2 (Part II), para. 110),[466] by a recorded vote of 133 to 23, with 30 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

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[465] See E/CN.4/2001/2-E/CN.4/Sub.2/2000/46, chap. II, sect. A.

[466] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Brazil, China, and Cuba (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries).

Against: Australia, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Georgia, Germany, Hungary, Israel, Lithuania, Marshall Islands, Netherlands, New Zealand, Palau, Poland, Slovakia, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Albania, Andorra, Austria, Croatia, Cyprus, Finland, France, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Norway, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Slovenia, Spain, Turkey, Ukraine, Vanuatu

64/172. The right to development

The General Assembly,

Guided by the Charter of the United Nations, which expresses, in particular, the determination to promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom and, to that end, to employ international mechanisms for the promotion of the economic and social advancement of all peoples,

Recalling the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[467] as well as the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights[468] and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[468]

Recalling also the outcomes of all the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields,

Recalling further that the Declaration on the Right to Development, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 41/128 of 4 December 1986, confirmed that the right to development is an inalienable human right and that equality of opportunity for development is a prerogative both of nations and of individuals who make up nations, and that the individual is the central subject and beneficiary of development,

Stressing that the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action[469] reaffirmed the right to development as a universal and inalienable right and an integral part of fundamental human rights, and the individual as the central subject and beneficiary of development,

Reaffirming the objective of making the right to development a reality for everyone, as set out in the United Nations Millennium Declaration, adopted by the General Assembly on 8 September 2000,[470]

Deeply concerned that the majority of indigenous peoples in the world live in conditions of poverty, and recognizing the critical need to address the negative impact of poverty and inequity on indigenous peoples by ensuring their full and effective inclusion in development and poverty eradication programmes,

Reaffirming the universality, indivisibility, interrelatedness, interdependence and mutually reinforcing nature of all civil, cultural, economic, political and social rights, including the right to development,

Expressing deep concern over the lack of progress in the trade negotiations of the World Trade Organization, and reaffirming the need for a successful outcome of the Doha Development Round in key areas such as agriculture, market access for non-agricultural products, trade facilitation, development and services,

Recalling the outcome of the twelfth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, held in Accra from 20 to 25 April 2008, on the theme "Addressing the opportunities and challenges of globalization for development",[471]

Recalling also all its previous resolutions, Human Rights Council resolution 12/23 of 2 October 2009,[472] previous resolutions of the Council and those of the Commission on Human Rights on the right to development, in particular Commission resolution 1998/72 of 22 April 1998[473] on the urgent need to make further progress towards the realization of the right to development as set out in the Declaration on the Right to Development,

Welcoming the outcome of the tenth session of the Working Group on the Right to Development of the Human Rights Council, held in Geneva from 22 to 26 June 2009, as contained in the report of the Working Group[474] and as referred to in the report of the Secretary-General,[475]

Recalling the Fifteenth Summit Conference of Heads of State and Government of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, from 11 to 16 July 2009, and the previous summits and conferences at which the States members of the Movement stressed the need to operationalize the right to development as a priority,

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[467] Resolution 217 A (III).

[468] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[469] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[470] See resolution 55/2.

[471] See TD/442 and Corr.1.

[472] See A/HRC/12/50, part one, chap. I.

[473] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1998, Supplement No. 3* (E/1998/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[474] A/HRC/12/28.

[475] A/64/256.

Reiterating its continuing support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development[476] as a development framework for Africa,

Deeply concerned by the negative impacts of the global economic and financial crises on the realization of the right to development,

Recognizing that poverty is an affront to human dignity,

Recognizing also that extreme poverty and hunger are the greatest global threat that requires the collective commitment of the international community for its eradication, pursuant to millennium development goal 1, and therefore calling upon the international community, including the Human Rights Council, to contribute towards achieving that goal,

Recognizing further that historical injustices have undeniably contributed to the poverty, underdevelopment, marginalization, social exclusion, economic disparity, instability and insecurity that affect many people in different parts of the world, in particular in developing countries,

Stressing that poverty eradication is one of the critical elements in the promotion and realization of the right to development and that poverty is a multifaceted problem that requires a multifaceted and integrated approach in addressing economic, political, social, environmental and institutional dimensions at all levels, especially in the context of the millennium development goal of halving, by 2015, the proportion of the world's people whose income is less than one dollar a day and the proportion of people who suffer from hunger,

1. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations adopted by consensus by the Working Group on the Right to Development of the Human Rights Council at its tenth session,[474] and calls for their immediate, full and effective implementation by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and other relevant actors;

2. *Supports* the realization of the mandate of the Working Group, as renewed by the Human Rights Council in its resolution 9/3 of 24 September 2008,[477] with the recognition that the Working Group will convene annual sessions of five working days and submit its reports to the Council;

3. *Also supports* the realization of the mandate of the high-level task force on the implementation of the right to development established within the framework of the Working Group, as renewed by the Human Rights Council in its resolution 9/3, with the further recognition that the task force will convene annual sessions of seven working days and submit its reports to the Working Group;

4. *Emphasizes* the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolution 60/251 of 15 March 2006 establishing the Human Rights Council, and in this regard calls upon the Council to implement the agreement to continue to act to ensure that its agenda promotes and advances sustainable development and the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, and also in this regard to lead to raising the right to development, as set out in paragraphs 5 and 10 of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action,[illegible] to the same level as and on a par with all other human rights and fundamental freedoms;

5. *Notes with appreciation* that the high-level task force, at its second meeting, examined millennium development goal 8, on developing a global partnership for development, and suggested criteria for a periodic evaluation with the aim of improving the effectiveness of global partnership with regard to the realization of the right to development;[478]

6. *Endorses* the recommendations of the Working Group, as outlined in paragraphs 44 to 46 of its report,[474] which would ensure that the right to development criteria and corresponding operational sub-criteria, to be submitted by the high-level task force to the Working Group at its eleventh session in 2010, together with suggestions for further work, address, in a comprehensive and coherent manner, the essential features of the right to development, as defined in the Declaration on the Right to Development,[479] including the priority concerns of the international community beyond those enumerated in millennium development goal 8;

7. *Stresses* that the above-mentioned criteria and corresponding operational sub-criteria, once considered, revised and endorsed by the Working Group, should be used, as appropriate, in the elaboration of a comprehensive and coherent set of standards for the implementation of the right to development;

8. *Emphasizes* the importance, upon completion of the workplan of the high-level task force for the period 2008–2010,[480] endorsed by the Human Rights Council in its resolution 9/3, of the Working Group taking appropriate steps to ensure respect for and practical application of the above-mentioned standards, which could take various forms, including the elaboration of guidelines on the implementation of the right to development, and which could evolve into a basis for consideration of an international legal standard of a binding nature, through a collaborative process of engagement;

9. *Stresses* the importance of the core principles contained in the conclusions of the Working Group at its third

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[476] A/57/304, annex.

[477] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-third Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/63/53/Add.1), chap. I.

[478] See E/CN.4/2005/WG.18/TF/3.

[479] Resolution 41/128, annex.

[480] See A/HRC/9/17, para. 43.

session,[481] congruent with the purpose of international human rights instruments, such as equality, non-discrimination, accountability, participation and international cooperation, as critical to mainstreaming the right to development at the national and international levels, and underlines the importance of the principles of equity and transparency;

10. *Also stresses* that it is important that the high-level task force and the Working Group, in the discharge of their mandates, take into account the need:

(*a*) To promote the democratization of the system of international governance in order to increase the effective participation of developing countries in international decision-making;

(*b*) To also promote effective partnerships such as the New Partnership for Africa's Development[illegible] and other similar initiatives with the developing countries, particularly the least developed countries, for the purpose of the realization of their right to development, including the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;

(*c*) To strive for greater acceptance, operationalization and realization of the right to development at the international level, while urging all States to undertake at the national level the necessary policy formulation and to institute the measures required for the implementation of the right to development as an integral part of fundamental human rights, and also urging all States to expand and deepen mutually beneficial cooperation in ensuring development and eliminating obstacles to development in the context of promoting effective international cooperation for the realization of the right to development, bearing in mind that lasting progress towards the implementation of the right to development requires effective development policies at the national level and a favourable economic environment at the international level;

(*d*) To consider ways and means to continue to ensure the operationalization of the right to development as a priority;

(*e*) To mainstream the right to development in the policies and operational activities of the United Nations and the specialized agencies, funds and programmes, as well as in the policies and strategies of the international financial and multilateral trading systems, bearing in mind in this regard that the core principles of the international economic, commercial and financial spheres, such as equity, non-discrimination, transparency, accountability, participation and international cooperation, including effective partnerships for development, are indispensable in achieving the right to development and preventing discriminatory treatment arising from political or other non-economic considerations in addressing the issues of concern to the developing countries;

11. *Encourages* the Human Rights Council to consider how to ensure follow-up to the work of the former Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights on the right to development, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly and the Commission on Human Rights and in compliance with decisions to be taken by the Council;

12. *Invites* Member States and all other stakeholders to participate actively in future sessions of the Social Forum, while recognizing the strong support extended to the Forum at its first four sessions by the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights;

13. *Reaffirms* the commitment to implement the goals and targets set out in all the outcome documents of the major United Nations conferences and summits and their review processes, in particular those relating to the realization of the right to development, recognizing that the realization of the right to development is critical to achieving the objectives, goals and targets set in those outcome documents;

14. *Also reaffirms* that the realization of the right to development is essential to the implementation of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, which regards all human rights as universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated, places the human person at the centre of development and recognizes that, while development facilitates the enjoyment of all human rights, the lack of development may not be invoked to justify the abridgement of internationally recognized human rights;

15. *Stresses* that the primary responsibility for the promotion and protection of all human rights lies with the State, and reaffirms that States have the primary responsibility for their own economic and social development and that the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized;

16. *Reaffirms* the primary responsibility of States to create national and international conditions favourable to the realization of the right to development, as well as their commitment to cooperate with each other to that end;

17. *Also reaffirms* the need for an international environment that is conducive to the realization of the right to development;

18. *Stresses* the need to strive for greater acceptance, operationalization and realization of the right to development at the international and national levels, and calls upon States to institute the measures required for the implementation of the right to development as an integral part of fundamental human rights;

19. *Emphasizes* the critical importance of identifying and analysing obstacles impeding the full realization of the right to development at both the national and the international levels;

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[481] See E/CN.4/2002/28/Rev.1, sect. VIII.A.

20. *Affirms* that, while globalization offers both opportunities and challenges, the process of globalization remains deficient in achieving the objectives of integrating all countries into a globalized world, and stresses the need for policies and measures at the national and global levels to respond to the challenges and opportunities of globalization if this process is to be made fully inclusive and equitable;

21. *Recognizes* that, despite continuous efforts on the part of the international community, the gap between developed and developing countries remains unacceptably wide, that most of the developing countries continue to face difficulties in participating in the globalization process and that many risk being marginalized and effectively excluded from its benefits;

22. *Expresses its deep concern*, in this regard, at the negative impact on the realization of the right to development owing to the further aggravation of the economic and social situation, in particular of developing countries, as a result of the ongoing international energy, food and financial crises as well as global climate change;

23. *Underlines* the fact that the international community is far from meeting the target set in the United Nations Millennium Declaration[479] of halving the number of people living in poverty by 2015, reaffirms the commitment made to meet that target, and emphasizes the principle of international cooperation, including partnership and commitment, between developed and developing countries towards achieving the goal;

24. *Urges* developed countries that have not yet done so to make concrete efforts towards meeting the targets of 0.7 per cent of their gross national product for official development assistance to developing countries and 0.15 to 0.2 per cent of their gross national product to least developed countries, and encourages developing countries to build on the progress achieved in ensuring that official development assistance is used effectively to help to meet development goals and targets;

25. *Recognizes* the need to address market access for developing countries, including in agriculture, services and non-agricultural products, in particular those of interest to developing countries;

26. *Calls for* the implementation of a desirable pace of meaningful trade liberalization, including in areas under negotiation in the World Trade Organization; the implementation of commitments on implementation-related issues and concerns; a review of special and differential treatment provisions, with a view to strengthening them and making them more precise, effective and operational; the avoidance of new forms of protectionism; and capacity-building and technical assistance for developing countries as important issues in making progress towards the effective implementation of the right to development;

27. *Recognizes* the important link between the international economic, commercial and financial spheres and the realization of the right to development; stresses in this regard the need for good governance and for broadening the base of decision-making at the international level on issues of development concern and the need to fill organizational gaps, as well as to strengthen the United Nations system and other multilateral institutions; and also stresses the need to broaden and strengthen the participation of developing countries and countries with economies in transition in international economic decision-making and norm-setting;

28. *Also recognizes* that good governance and the rule of law at the national level assist all States in the promotion and protection of human rights, including the right to development, and agrees on the value of the ongoing efforts being made by States to identify and strengthen good governance practices, including transparent, responsible, accountable and participatory government, that are responsive and appropriate to their needs and aspirations, including in the context of agreed partnership approaches to development, capacity-building and technical assistance;

29. *Further recognizes* the important role and the rights of women and the application of a gender perspective as a cross-cutting issue in the process of realizing the right to development, and notes in particular the positive relationship between women's education and their equal participation in the civil, cultural, economic, political and social activities of the community and the promotion of the right to development;

30. *Stresses* the need for the integration of the rights of children, girls and boys alike, in all policies and programmes and for ensuring the promotion and protection of those rights, especially in areas relating to health, education and the full development of their capacities;

31. *Welcomes* the Political Declaration on HIV/AIDS adopted at the High-level Meeting on HIV/AIDS of the General Assembly on 2 June 2006,[482] stresses that further and additional measures must be taken at the national and international levels to fight HIV/AIDS and other communicable diseases, taking into account ongoing efforts and programmes, and reiterates the need for international assistance in this regard;

32. *Recalls* the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,[483] which entered into force on 3 May 2008, and stresses the need to take into consideration the rights of persons with disabilities and the importance of international cooperation in the realization of the right to development;

33. *Stresses its commitment* to indigenous peoples in the process of the realization of the right to development, and reaffirms the commitment to promote their rights in the areas of education, employment, vocational training and retraining, housing, sanitation, health and social security, in accordance

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[482] Resolution 60/262, annex.

[483] Resolution 61/106, annex I.

with recognized international human rights obligations and taking into account, as appropriate, the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 61/295 of 13 September 2007;

34. *Recognizes* the need for strong partnerships with civil society organizations and the private sector in pursuit of poverty eradication and development, as well as for corporate social responsibility;

35. *Emphasizes* the urgent need for taking concrete and effective measures to prevent, combat and criminalize all forms of corruption at all levels, to prevent, detect and deter in a more effective manner international transfers of illicitly acquired assets and to strengthen international cooperation in asset recovery, consistent with the principles of the United Nations Convention against Corruption,[484] particularly chapter V thereof, stresses the importance of a genuine political commitment on the part of all Governments through a firm legal framework, and in this context urges States to sign and ratify the Convention as soon as possible and States parties to implement it effectively;

36. *Also emphasizes* the need to strengthen further the activities of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in the promotion and realization of the right to development, including by ensuring effective use of the financial and human resources necessary to fulfil its mandate, and calls upon the Secretary-General to provide the Office of the High Commissioner with the necessary resources;

37. *Reaffirms* the request to the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, in mainstreaming the right to development, to undertake effectively activities aimed at strengthening the global partnership for development between Member States, development agencies and the international development, financial and trade institutions, and to reflect those activities in detail in her next report to the Human Rights Council;

38. *Calls upon* the United Nations funds and programmes, as well as the specialized agencies, to mainstream the right to development in their operational programmes and objectives, and stresses the need for the international financial and multilateral trading systems to mainstream the right to development in their policies and objectives;

39. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of Member States, United Nations organs and bodies, specialized agencies, funds and programmes, international development and financial institutions, in particular the Bretton Woods institutions, and non-governmental organizations;

40. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session and an interim report to the Human Rights Council on the implementation of the present resolution, including efforts undertaken at the national, regional and international levels in the promotion and realization of the right to development, and invites the Chair of the Working Group on the Right to Development to present a verbal update to the Assembly at its sixty-fifth session.

RESOLUTION 64/173

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2009, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/439/Add.2 (Part II), para. 110),[485] by a recorded vote of 131 to 53, with 2 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Chile, Timor-Leste

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[484] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2349, No. 42146.

[485] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: China, Cuba (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries) and Russian Federation.

64/173. Promotion of equitable geographical distribution in the membership of the human rights treaty bodies

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions on this question,

Reaffirming the importance of the goal of universal ratification of the United Nations human rights instruments,

Welcoming the significant increase in the number of ratifications of United Nations human rights instruments, which has especially contributed to their universality,

Reiterating the importance of the effective functioning of treaty bodies established pursuant to United Nations human rights instruments for the full and effective implementation of those instruments,

Recalling that, with regard to the election of the members of the human rights treaty bodies, the General Assembly as well as the former Commission on Human Rights recognized the importance of giving consideration in their membership to equitable geographical distribution, gender balance and representation of the principal legal systems and of bearing in mind that the members shall be elected and shall serve in their personal capacity, and shall be of high moral character, acknowledged impartiality and recognized competence in the field of human rights,

Reaffirming the significance of national and regional particularities and various historical, cultural and religious backgrounds, as well as of different political, economic and legal systems,

Recognizing that the United Nations pursues multilingualism as a means of promoting, protecting and preserving diversity of languages and cultures globally and that genuine multilingualism promotes unity in diversity and international understanding,

Recalling that the General Assembly as well as the former Commission on Human Rights encouraged States parties to United Nations human rights treaties, individually and through meetings of States parties, to consider how to give better effect, inter alia, to the principle of equitable geographical distribution in the membership of treaty bodies,

Expressing concern at the regional imbalance in the current composition of the membership of some of the human rights treaty bodies,

Noting in particular that the status quo tends to be detrimental to the election of experts from some regional groups, in particular the African, Asian, Latin American and Caribbean and Eastern European groups,

Convinced that the goal of equitable geographical distribution in the membership of human rights treaty bodies is perfectly compatible and can be fully realized and achieved in harmony with the need to ensure gender balance and the representation of the principal legal systems in those bodies and the high moral character, acknowledged impartiality and recognized competence in the field of human rights of their members,

1. *Reiterates* that the States parties to the United Nations human rights instruments should take into account, in their nomination of members to the human rights treaty bodies, that these committees shall be composed of persons of high moral character and recognized competence in the field of human rights, consideration being given to the usefulness of the participation of some persons having legal experience, and to equal representation of women and men, and that members shall serve in their personal capacity, and also reiterates that, in the elections to the human rights treaty bodies, consideration shall be given to equitable geographical distribution of membership and to the representation of the different forms of civilization and of the principal legal systems;

2. *Encourages* the States parties to the United Nations human rights instruments to consider and adopt concrete actions, inter alia, the possible establishment of quota distribution systems by geographical region for the election of the members of the treaty bodies, thereby ensuring the paramount objective of equitable geographical distribution in the membership of those human rights bodies;

3. *Urges* the States parties to the United Nations human rights instruments, including the bureau members, to include this matter in the agenda of each meeting and/or Conference of States Parties to those instruments in order to initiate a debate on ways and means to ensure equitable geographical distribution in the membership of the human rights treaty bodies, based on previous recommendations of the Commission on Human Rights and the Economic and Social Council and the provisions of the present resolution;

4. *Recommends*, when considering the possible establishment of a quota by region for the election of the membership of each treaty body, the introduction of flexible procedures that encompass the following criteria:

(*a*) Each of the five regional groups established by the General Assembly must be assigned a quota of the membership of each treaty body in equivalent proportion to the number of States parties to the instrument that it represents;

(*b*) There must be provision for periodic revisions that reflect the relative changes in the geographical distribution of States parties;

(*c*) Automatic periodic revisions should be envisaged in order to avoid amending the text of the instrument when the quotas are revised;

5. *Stresses* that the process needed to achieve the goal of equitable geographical distribution in the membership of human rights treaty bodies can contribute to raising awareness of the importance of gender balance, the representation of the

principal legal systems and the principle that the members of the treaty bodies shall be elected and shall serve in their personal capacity, and shall be of high moral character, acknowledged impartiality and recognized competence in the field of human rights;

6. *Requests* the chairs of the human rights treaty bodies to consider at their next meeting the content of the present resolution and to submit, through the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, specific recommendations for the achievement of the goal of equitable geographical distribution in the membership of the human rights treaty bodies;

7. *Requests* the High Commissioner to submit concrete recommendations on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session;

8. *Decides* to continue its consideration of the question at its sixty-sixth session under the item entitled "Promotion and protection of human rights".

RESOLUTION 64/174

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2009, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/439/Add.2 (Part II), para. 110),[486] by a recorded vote of 126 to 52, with 5 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Armenia, Fiji, Japan, Maldives, Timor-Leste

64/174. Human rights and cultural diversity

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[487] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights[488] and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[488] as well as other pertinent human rights instruments,

Recalling also its resolutions 54/160 of 17 December 1999, 55/91 of 4 December 2000, 57/204 of 18 December 2002, 58/167 of 22 December 2003, 60/167 of 16 December 2005 and 62/155 of 18 December 2007, and recalling further its resolutions 54/113 of 10 December 1999, 55/23 of 13 November 2000 and 60/4 of 20 October 2005 concerning the United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations,

Noting that numerous instruments within the United Nations system promote cultural diversity, as well as the conservation and development of culture, in particular the Declaration of the Principles of International Culture Cooperation proclaimed on 4 November 1966 by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization at its fourteenth session,[489]

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[490]

Recalling that, as stated in the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, contained in the annex to its resolution 2625 (XXV) of 24 October 1970, States have the duty to cooperate with one another, irrespective of the differences in their political, economic and social systems, in the various spheres of international relations, in the promotion of universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, and in the elimination of all forms of racial discrimination and all forms of religious intolerance,

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[486] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: China, Cuba (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries) and El Salvador.

[487] Resolution 217 A (III).

[488] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[489] See United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Fourteenth Session, Paris, 1966, Resolutions.*

[490] A/64/160.

Welcoming the adoption of the Global Agenda for Dialogue among Civilizations by its resolution 56/6 of 9 November 2001,

Welcoming also the contribution of the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, held in Durban, South Africa, from 31 August to 8 September 2001, to the promotion of respect for cultural diversity,

Welcoming further the Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization,[491] together with its Action Plan,[492] adopted on 2 November 2001 by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization at its thirty-first session, in which member States invited the United Nations system and other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned to cooperate with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in the promotion of the principles set forth in the Declaration and its Action Plan with a view to enhancing the synergy of actions in favour of cultural diversity,

Taking note of the Ministerial Meeting on Human Rights and Cultural Diversity of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Tehran on 3 and 4 September 2007,

Reaffirming that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated and that the international community must treat human rights globally in a fair and equal manner, on the same footing and with the same emphasis, and that, while the significance of national and regional particularities and various historical, cultural and religious backgrounds must be borne in mind, it is the duty of States, regardless of their political, economic and cultural systems, to promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Recognizing that cultural diversity and the pursuit of cultural development by all peoples and nations are a source of mutual enrichment for the cultural life of humankind,

Taking into account that a culture of peace actively fosters non-violence and respect for human rights and strengthens solidarity among peoples and nations and dialogue between cultures,

Recognizing that all cultures and civilizations share a common set of universal values,

Recognizing also that the promotion of the rights of indigenous people and their cultures and traditions will contribute to the respect for and observance of cultural diversity among all peoples and nations,

Considering that tolerance of cultural, ethnic, religious and linguistic diversities, as well as dialogue among and within civilizations, is essential for peace, understanding and friendship among individuals and people of different cultures and nations of the world, while manifestations of cultural prejudice, intolerance and xenophobia towards different cultures and religions generate hatred and violence among peoples and nations throughout the world,

Recognizing in each culture a dignity and value that deserve recognition, respect and preservation, and convinced that, in their rich variety and diversity, and in the reciprocal influences that they exert on one another, all cultures form part of the common heritage belonging to all humankind,

Convinced that the promotion of cultural pluralism and tolerance towards and dialogue among various cultures and civilizations would contribute to the efforts of all peoples and nations to enrich their cultures and traditions by engaging in a mutually beneficial exchange of knowledge and intellectual, moral and material achievements,

Acknowledging the diversity of the world, recognizing that all cultures and civilizations contribute to the enrichment of humankind, acknowledging the importance of respect and understanding for religious and cultural diversity throughout the world, and, in order to promote international peace and security, committing itself to advancing human welfare, freedom and progress everywhere, as well as to encouraging tolerance, respect, dialogue and cooperation among different cultures, civilizations and peoples,

1. *Affirms* the importance for all peoples and nations to hold, develop and preserve their cultural heritage and traditions in a national and international atmosphere of peace, tolerance and mutual respect;

2. *Welcomes* the adoption on 8 September 2000 of the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[493] in which Member States consider, inter alia, that tolerance is one of the fundamental values essential to international relations in the twenty-first century and that it should include the active promotion of a culture of peace and dialogue among civilizations, with human beings respecting one another in all their diversity of belief, culture and language, neither fearing nor repressing differences within and between societies but cherishing them as a precious asset of humanity;

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[491] United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Thirty-first Session, Paris, 15 October–3 November 2001*, vol. I and corrigendum, *Resolutions*, chap. V, resolution 25, annex I.

[492] Ibid., annex II.

[493] See resolution 55/2.

3. *Recognizes* the right of everyone to take part in cultural life and to enjoy the benefits of scientific progress and its applications;

4. *Affirms* that the international community should strive to respond to the challenges and opportunities posed by globalization in a manner that ensures respect for the cultural diversity of all;

5. *Expresses its determination* to prevent and mitigate cultural homogenization in the context of globalization, through increased intercultural exchange guided by the promotion and protection of cultural diversity;

6. *Affirms* that intercultural dialogue essentially enriches the common understanding of human rights and that the benefits to be derived from the encouragement and development of international contacts and cooperation in the cultural fields are important;

7. *Welcomes* the recognition at the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance of the necessity of respecting and maximizing the benefits of diversity within and among all nations in working together to build a harmonious and productive future by putting into practice and promoting values and principles such as justice, equality and non-discrimination, democracy, fairness and friendship, tolerance and respect within and among communities and nations, in particular through public information and educational programmes to raise awareness and understanding of the benefits of cultural diversity, including programmes in which the public authorities work in partnership with international and non-governmental organizations and other sectors of civil society;

8. *Recognizes* that respect for cultural diversity and the cultural rights of all enhances cultural pluralism, contributing to a wider exchange of knowledge and understanding of cultural background, advancing the application and enjoyment of universally accepted human rights throughout the world and fostering stable, friendly relations among peoples and nations worldwide;

9. *Emphasizes* that the promotion of cultural pluralism and tolerance at the national, regional and international levels is important for enhancing respect for cultural rights and cultural diversity;

10. *Also emphasizes* that tolerance and respect for diversity facilitate the universal promotion and protection of human rights, including gender equality and the enjoyment of all human rights by all, and underlines the fact that tolerance and respect for cultural diversity and the universal promotion and protection of human rights are mutually supportive;

11. *Urges* all actors on the international scene to build an international order based on inclusion, justice, equality and equity, human dignity, mutual understanding and promotion of and respect for cultural diversity and universal human rights, and to reject all doctrines of exclusion based on racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

12. *Urges* States to ensure that their political and legal systems reflect the multicultural diversity within their societies and, where necessary, to improve democratic institutions so that they are more fully participatory and avoid marginalization and exclusion of, and discrimination against, specific sectors of society;

13. *Calls upon* States, international organizations and United Nations agencies and invites civil society, including non-governmental organizations, to recognize and promote respect for cultural diversity for the purpose of advancing the objectives of peace, development and universally accepted human rights;

14. *Stresses* the necessity of freely using the media and new information and communications technologies to create the conditions for a renewed dialogue among cultures and civilizations;

15. *Requests* the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to continue to bear in mind fully the issues raised in the present resolution in the course of its activities for the promotion and protection of human rights;

16. *Also requests* the Office of the High Commissioner and invites the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to support initiatives aimed at promoting intercultural dialogue on human rights;

17. *Urges* relevant international organizations to conduct studies on how respect for cultural diversity contributes to fostering international solidarity and cooperation among all nations;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in the light of the present resolution, to prepare a report on human rights and cultural diversity, taking into account the views of Member States, relevant United Nations agencies and non-governmental organizations, as well as the considerations in the present resolution regarding the recognition and importance of cultural diversity among all peoples and nations in the world, and to submit the report to the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session;

19. *Decides* to continue consideration of the question at its sixty-sixth session under the sub-item entitled "Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms".

RESOLUTION 64/175

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2009, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/439/Add.3, para. 18),[494] by a recorded vote of 99 to 20, with 63 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Bulgaria, Burundi, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kiribati, Latvia, Lebanon, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Maldives, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Turkey, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Vanuatu

Against: Algeria, Belarus, China, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Myanmar, Namibia, Oman, Russian Federation, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Zimbabwe

Abstaining: Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Gabon, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, India, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lesotho, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mozambique, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Qatar, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Senegal, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Swaziland, Tajikistan, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Yemen, Zambia

64/175. Situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming that States Members of the United Nations have an obligation to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms and to fulfil the obligations that they have undertaken under the various international instruments,

Mindful that the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is a party to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[495] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[495] the Convention on the Rights of the Child[496] and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[497]

Noting the constructive dialogue with the Committee on the Rights of the Child during the consideration of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea's combined third and fourth periodic reports on the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child as a sign of engagement in international cooperative efforts in the field of human rights, and hoping that the enhanced dialogue will contribute to improving the situation of children in the country,

Taking note of the concluding observations of the treaty-monitoring bodies under the four treaties to which the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is a party, the most recent of which were given by the Committee on the Rights of the Child in January 2009,[498]

Noting with appreciation the collaboration established between the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the United Nations Children's Fund and the World Health Organization in order to improve the health situation in the country, and the collaboration established with the United Nations Children's Fund in order to improve the quality of education for children,

Noting the decision on the resumption, on a modest scale, of the activities of the United Nations Development Programme in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and encouraging the engagement of the Government with the international community to ensure that the programmes benefit the persons in need of assistance,

Recalling its resolutions 60/173 of 16 December 2005, 61/174 of 19 December 2006, 62/167 of 18 December 2007 and 63/190 of 18 December 2008, Commission on Human Rights resolutions 2003/10 of 16 April 2003,[499] 2004/13 of

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[494] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Lucia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Tuvalu, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Vanuatu.

[495] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[496] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[497] Ibid., vol. 1249, No. 20378.

[498] See CRC/C/PRK/CO/4.

[499] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2003, Supplement No. 3* (E/2003/23), chap. II, sect. A.

15 April 2004[500] and 2005/11 of 14 April 2005,[501] Human Rights Council decision 1/102 of 30 June 2006[502] and Council resolutions 7/15 of 27 March 2008[503] and 10/16 of 26 March 2009,[504] and mindful of the need for the international community to strengthen its coordinated efforts aimed at achieving the implementation of those resolutions,

Taking note of the report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea,[505] regretting that he still has not been allowed to visit the country and that he received no cooperation from the authorities of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and taking note also of the comprehensive report of the Secretary-General on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea submitted in accordance with resolution 63/190,[506]

Noting the importance of the inter-Korean dialogue, which could contribute to the improvement of the human rights and humanitarian situation in the country,

Welcoming the recent resumption of the reunion of separated families across the border, which is an urgent humanitarian concern of the entire Korean people,

1. *Expresses its very serious concern* at:

(*a*) The persistence of continuing reports of systematic, widespread and grave violations of civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, including:

(i) Torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, including inhuman conditions of detention, public executions, extrajudicial and arbitrary detention; the absence of due process and the rule of law, including fair trial guarantees and an independent judiciary; the imposition of the death penalty for political and religious reasons; collective punishments; and the existence of a large number of prison camps and the extensive use of forced labour;

(ii) Limitations imposed on every person who wishes to move freely within the country and travel abroad, including the punishment of those who leave or try to leave the country without permission, or their families, as well as punishment of persons who are returned;

(iii) The situation of refugees and asylum-seekers expelled or returned to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and sanctions imposed on citizens of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea who have been repatriated from abroad, leading to punishments of internment, torture, cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or the death penalty, and, in this regard, urges all States to respect the fundamental principle of non-refoulement, to treat those who seek refuge humanely and to ensure unhindered access to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and his Office, with a view to improving the situation of those who seek refuge, and once again urges States parties to comply with their obligations under the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees[507] and the 1967 Protocol thereto[508] in relation to refugees from the Democratic People's Republic of Korea who are covered by those instruments;

(iv) All-pervasive and severe restrictions on the freedoms of thought, conscience, religion, opinion and expression, peaceful assembly and association, the right to privacy and equal access to information, by such means as the persecution of individuals exercising their freedom of opinion and expression, and their families, and on the right of everyone to take part in the conduct of public affairs, directly or through freely chosen representatives, of his or her country;

(v) The violations of economic, social and cultural rights, which have led to severe malnutrition, widespread health problems and other hardship for the population in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, in particular for persons belonging to particularly exposed groups, inter alia, women, children and the elderly;

(vi) Continuing violations of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of women, in particular the trafficking of women for the purpose of prostitution or forced marriage and the subjection of women to human smuggling, forced abortions, gender-based discrimination, including in the economic sphere, and gender-based violence;

(vii) Continuing reports of violations of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of children, in particular the continued lack of access to basic economic, social and cultural rights for many children, and in this regard notes the particularly vulnerable situation faced by, inter alia, returned or repatriated children, street children, children with disabilities, children whose parents are detained, children living in detention or in institutions and children in conflict with the law;[498]

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[500] Ibid., *2004, Supplement No. 3* (E/2004/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[501] Ibid., *2005, Supplement No. 3* and corrigenda (E/2005/23 and Corr.1 and 2), chap. II, sect. A.

[502] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-first Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/61/53), chap. II, sect. B.

[503] Ibid., *Sixty-third Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/63/53), chap. II.

[504] Ibid., *Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/64/53), chap. II, sect. A.

[505] See A/64/224.

[506] A/64/319 and Corr.1.

[507] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 189, No. 2545.

[508] Ibid., vol. 606, No. 8791.

(viii) Continuing reports of violations of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of persons with disabilities, especially on the use of collective camps and of coercive measures that target the rights of persons with disabilities to decide freely and responsibly on the number and spacing of their children;

(ix) Violations of workers' rights, including the right to freedom of association and collective bargaining, the right to strike as defined by the obligations of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea under the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[501] and the prohibition of the economic exploitation of children and of any harmful or hazardous work of children as defined by the obligations of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea under the Convention on the Rights of the Child;[502]

(*b*) The continued refusal of the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to recognize the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea or to extend cooperation to him, despite the renewal of the mandate by the Human Rights Council in its resolutions 7/15[503] and 10/16;[504]

2. *Reiterates its very serious concern* at unresolved questions of international concern relating to abductions in the form of enforced disappearance, which violates the human rights of nationals of other sovereign countries, and in this regard strongly calls upon the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea urgently to resolve these questions, including through existing channels, in a transparent manner, including by ensuring the immediate return of abductees;

3. *Expresses its very deep concern* at the precarious humanitarian situation in the country, partly as a result of frequent natural disasters, compounded by the misallocation of resources away from the satisfaction of basic needs, and the increasing State restrictions on the cultivation and trade in foodstuffs, as well as the prevalence of maternal malnutrition and of infant malnutrition, which, despite some progress, continues to affect the physical and mental development of a significant proportion of children, and urges the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, in this regard, to take preventive and remedial action;

4. *Commends* the Special Rapporteur for the activities undertaken so far and for his continued efforts in the conduct of his mandate despite the limited access to information;

5. *Strongly urges* the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to respect fully all human rights and fundamental freedoms and, in this regard:

(*a*) To immediately put an end to the systematic, widespread and grave violations of human rights mentioned above, inter alia, by implementing fully the measures set out in the above-mentioned resolutions of the General Assembly, the Commission on Human Rights and the Human Rights Council, and the recommendations addressed to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea by the United Nations special procedures and treaty bodies;

(*b*) To protect its inhabitants, address the issue of impunity and ensure that those responsible for violations of human rights are brought to justice before an independent judiciary;

(*c*) To tackle the root causes leading to refugee outflows and prosecute those who exploit refugees by human smuggling, trafficking and extortion, while not criminalizing the victims, and to ensure that citizens of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea expelled or returned to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea are able to return in safety and dignity, are humanely treated and are not subjected to any kind of punishment;

(*d*) To extend its full cooperation to the Special Rapporteur, including by granting him full, free and unimpeded access to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and to other United Nations human rights mechanisms;

(*e*) To engage in technical cooperation activities in the field of human rights with the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and her Office, as pursued by the High Commissioner in recent years, with a view to improving the situation of human rights in the country, and in the universal periodic review by the Human Rights Council;

(*f*) To engage in cooperation with the International Labour Organization with a view to significantly improving workers' rights;

(*g*) To continue and reinforce its cooperation with United Nations humanitarian agencies;

(*h*) To ensure full, safe and unhindered access to humanitarian aid and take measures to allow humanitarian agencies to secure its impartial delivery to all parts of the country on the basis of need in accordance with humanitarian principles, as it pledged to do, and to ensure access to adequate food and implement food security policies, including through sustainable agriculture;

6. *Decides* to continue its examination of the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea at its sixty-fifth session, and to this end requests the Secretary-General to submit a comprehensive report on the situation in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Special Rapporteur to continue to report his findings and recommendations.

RESOLUTION 64/176

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2009, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/439/Add.3, para. 18),[509] by a recorded vote of 74 to 49, with 59 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Belize, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kiribati, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Vanuatu

Against: Afghanistan, Algeria, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brunei Darussalam, China, Comoros, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ecuador, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Guinea, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Mauritania, Myanmar, Namibia, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Russian Federation, Senegal, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Zimbabwe

Abstaining: Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Benin, Bhutan, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Colombia, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Dominica, Ethiopia, Gabon, Georgia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Malawi, Mali, Mauritius, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, Paraguay, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sierra Leone, Singapore, South Africa, Suriname, Swaziland, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Zambia

64/176. Situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran

The General Assembly,

Guided by the Charter of the United Nations, as well as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[510] the International Covenants on Human Rights[511] and other international human rights instruments,

Recalling its previous resolutions on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran, the most recent of which is resolution 63/191 of 18 December 2008,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to resolution 63/191,[512] which highlights many areas of continuing concern with respect to the promotion and protection of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran and notes with particular concern negative developments in the area of civil and political rights since June 2008, and which discusses some positive achievements with respect to economic and social indicators;

2. *Expresses deep concern* at serious ongoing and recurring human rights violations in the Islamic Republic of Iran relating to, inter alia:

(*a*) Torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, including flogging and amputations;

(*b*) The continuing high incidence and increase in the rate of executions carried out in the absence of internationally recognized safeguards, including public executions and executions of juveniles;

(*c*) Stoning as a method of execution and persons in prison who continue to face sentences of execution by stoning, notwithstanding a circular from the head of the judiciary prohibiting stoning;

(*d*) Arrests, violent repression and sentencing of women exercising their right to peaceful assembly, a campaign of intimidation against women's human rights defenders, and continuing discrimination against women and girls in law and in practice;

(*e*) Increasing discrimination and other human rights violations against persons belonging to religious, ethnic, linguistic or other minorities, recognized or otherwise, including, inter alia, Arabs, Azeris, Baluchis, Kurds, Christians, Jews, Sufis and Sunni Muslims and their defenders, and, in particular, attacks on Baha'is and their faith in State-sponsored media, increasing evidence of efforts by the State to identify, monitor and arbitrarily detain Baha'is, preventing members of the Baha'i faith from attending university and from sustaining themselves economically, and the continuing detention of seven Baha'i leaders who were arrested in March and May 2008 and faced with serious charges without adequate or timely access to legal representation;

(*f*) Ongoing, systemic and serious restrictions of freedom of peaceful assembly and association and freedom of opinion and expression, including those imposed on the media, Internet users and trade unions, and increasing harassment, intimidation and persecution of political opponents and human rights defenders from all sectors of Iranian society, including arrests and violent repression of labour leaders, labour members peacefully assembling and students, noting in particular the forced closure of the Defenders of Human Rights Centre and the subsequent arrest and harassment of a number of its staff;

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[509] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

[510] Resolution 217 A (III).

[511] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[512] A/64/357.

(*g*) Severe limitations and restrictions on freedom of religion and belief, including arbitrary arrest, indefinite detention and lengthy jail sentences for those exercising their right to freedom of religion or belief;

(*h*) Persistent failure to uphold due process of law rights, and violation of the rights of detainees, including defendants held without charge or held incommunicado, the systematic and arbitrary use of prolonged solitary confinement, and lack of timely access to legal representation;

3. *Also expresses particular concern* at the response of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran following the presidential election of 12 June 2009 and the concurrent rise in human rights violations including, inter alia:

(*a*) Harassment, intimidation and persecution, including by arbitrary arrest, detention or disappearance, of opposition members, journalists and other media representatives, bloggers, lawyers, clerics, human rights defenders, academics, students and others exercising their rights to peaceful assembly and association and freedom of opinion and expression, resulting in numerous deaths and injuries;

(*b*) Use of violence and intimidation by Government-directed militias to forcibly disperse Iranian citizens engaged in the peaceful exercise of freedom of association, also resulting in numerous deaths and injuries;

(*c*) Interfering in the right to a fair trial by, inter alia, holding mass trials and denying defendants access to adequate legal representation, resulting in death sentences and lengthy jail sentences for some individuals;

(*d*) Reported use of forced confessions and abuse of prisoners including, inter alia, rape and torture;

(*e*) Escalation in the rate of executions in the months following the election;

(*f*) Further restrictions on freedom of expression, including severe restrictions on media coverage of public demonstrations and the disruption of telecommunications and Internet technology and the forcible closure of the offices of several organizations involved in the investigation of the situation of persons imprisoned following the election;

(*g*) Arbitrary arrest and detention of employees of foreign embassies in Tehran, thereby unduly interfering with the performance of the functions of those missions in a manner inconsistent with the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations [513] and the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations;[514]

4. *Calls upon* the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to address the substantive concerns highlighted in the report of the Secretary-General and the specific calls to action found in previous resolutions of the General Assembly, and to respect fully its human rights obligations, in law and in practice, in particular:

(*a*) To eliminate, in law and in practice, amputations, flogging and other forms of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment;

(*b*) To abolish, in law and in practice, public executions and other executions carried out in the absence of respect for internationally recognized safeguards;

(*c*) To abolish, pursuant to its obligations under article 37 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child[515] and article 6 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[511] executions of persons who at the time of their offence were under the age of 18;

(*d*) To abolish the use of stoning as a method of execution;

(*e*) To eliminate, in law and in practice, all forms of discrimination and other human rights violations against women and girls;

(*f*) To eliminate, in law and in practice, all forms of discrimination and other human rights violations against persons belonging to religious, ethnic, linguistic or other minorities, recognized or otherwise, to refrain from monitoring individuals on the basis of their religious beliefs, and to ensure that access of minorities to education and employment is on par with that of all Iranians;

(*g*) To implement, inter alia, the 1996 report of the Special Rapporteur on religious intolerance,[516] which recommended ways in which the Islamic Republic of Iran could emancipate the Baha'i community, and also to accord the seven Baha'i leaders held since 2008 the due process of law rights they are constitutionally guaranteed, including the right to adequate legal representation and the right to a fair trial;

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[513] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 500, No. 7310.

[514] Ibid., vol. 596, No. 8638.

[515] Ibid., vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[516] See E/CN.4/1996/95/Add.2.

(*h*) To end the harassment, intimidation and persecution of political opponents and human rights defenders, students, academics, journalists, other media representatives, bloggers, clerics and lawyers, including by releasing persons imprisoned arbitrarily or on the basis of their political views, including those detained following the presidential election of 12 June 2009;

(*i*) To uphold due process of law rights, to end impunity for human rights violations, and to launch a credible, impartial and independent investigation into the allegations of post-presidential election human rights violations;

5. *Further calls upon* the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to redress its inadequate record of cooperation with international human rights mechanisms by, inter alia, reporting pursuant to its obligations to the treaty bodies of the instruments to which it is a party and cooperating fully with all international human rights mechanisms, and encourages the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to continue exploring cooperation on human rights and justice reform with the United Nations, including the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights;

6. *Expresses deep concern* that, despite the Islamic Republic of Iran's standing invitation to all thematic special procedures mandate holders, it has not fulfilled any requests from those special mechanisms to visit the country in four years and has not answered numerous communications from those special mechanisms, and strongly urges the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to fully cooperate with the special mechanisms, including facilitating their visits to its territory, so that credible and independent investigations of all allegations of human rights violations, particularly those arising since 12 June 2009, can be conducted;

7. *Invites* the thematic special procedures mandate holders to pay particular attention to the human rights situation in the Islamic Republic of Iran, in particular the Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, the Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression, the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders, the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention and the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances, with a view to investigating and reporting on the various human rights violations that have arisen since 12 June 2009;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to it at its sixty-fifth session on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution;

9. *Decides* to continue its examination of the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran at its sixty-fifth session under the item entitled "Promotion and protection of human rights".

RESOLUTION 64/177

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/440 and Corr.1, para. 24)[517]

64/177. Technical assistance for implementing the international conventions and protocols related to terrorism

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming all General Assembly and Security Council resolutions related to technical assistance in countering terrorism,

Stressing again the need to strengthen international, regional and subregional cooperation to effectively prevent and combat terrorism, in particular by enhancing the national capacity of States through the provision of technical assistance,

Reaffirming the commitments undertaken by Member States, and recalling all aspects of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 60/288 of 8 September 2006,

Recalling its resolution 62/272 of 5 September 2008, in which it called upon Member States, the United Nations and other appropriate international, regional and subregional organizations to step up their efforts to implement the Strategy in an integrated manner and in all its aspects, and reaffirmed the need to enhance international cooperation in countering terrorism,

Recalling also its resolution 63/195 of 18 December 2008, in which it requested the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to enhance its technical assistance to Member States, upon request, to strengthen international cooperation in preventing and combating terrorism,

1. *Commends* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, including its Terrorism Prevention Branch, for providing, in close consultation with the Counter-Terrorism Committee and its Executive Directorate, technical assistance to States, upon request, to facilitate the implementation of the international conventions and protocols related to terrorism and relevant United Nations resolutions, and requests the Office, within its mandate, to continue to enhance its efforts in that regard, in close coordination with the Counter-Terrorism Committee and the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force;

2. *Urges* Member States that have not yet done so to consider becoming parties without delay to the existing international conventions and protocols related to terrorism, and

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[517] The draft resolution recommended in the report of the Committee was submitted by the Economic and Social Council.

requests the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, within its mandate, to reinforce the provision of technical assistance to Member States, upon request, for the ratification and legislative incorporation of those international legal instruments and for the building of capacity to implement them;

3. *Urges* Member States to strengthen, to the greatest extent possible, international cooperation in order to prevent and combat terrorism, including, when appropriate, by entering into bilateral and multilateral treaties on extradition and mutual legal assistance, within the framework of the international conventions and protocols related to terrorism and relevant United Nations resolutions and in accordance with international law, including the Charter of the United Nations, and to ensure adequate training of all relevant personnel in executing international cooperation, and requests the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, within its mandate, to provide technical assistance to Member States, upon request, to that end;

4. *Recognizes* the importance of the development and maintenance of fair and effective criminal justice systems, in accordance with applicable international law, as a fundamental basis of any strategy to counter terrorism, and requests the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, whenever appropriate, to take into account in its technical assistance programme to counter terrorism the elements necessary for building national capacity in order to strengthen criminal justice systems and the rule of law;

5. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, within its mandate, to intensify its efforts to continue to systematically develop specialized legal knowledge in the area of counter-terrorism and pertinent thematic areas of relevance to the mandates of the Office and to provide, upon request, technical assistance for building the capacity of Member States to ratify and implement the international conventions and protocols related to terrorism, especially through the preparation of technical tools and publications and the training of criminal justice officials, and requests the Office to report to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its nineteenth and twentieth sessions on the activities of the Office in that regard;

6. *Also requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, within its mandate and in coordination with the Counter-Terrorism Committee and its Executive Directorate and the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force, to continue to work with international organizations and relevant entities of the United Nations system, as well as with regional and subregional organizations and arrangements, in the delivery of technical assistance, whenever appropriate;

7. *Expresses its appreciation* to all Member States that have supported the technical assistance activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, including through financial contributions, and invites all Member States to consider making additional voluntary financial contributions, as well as providing in-kind support, especially in view of the need for enhanced and effective delivery of technical assistance to assist Member States with the implementation of relevant provisions of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy;[518]

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime with sufficient resources to carry out activities within its mandate, including in the area of counter-terrorism, and, in the context of the strategy for the period 2008–2011 for the Office,[519] to assist Member States, upon request, in the implementation of the relevant elements of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy;

9. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 64/178

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/440 and Corr.1, para. 24)[520]

64/178. Improving the coordination of efforts against trafficking in persons

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 63/194 of 18 December 2008 on improving the coordination of efforts against trafficking in persons and other relevant General Assembly resolutions on trafficking in persons and other contemporary forms of slavery,[521]

Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolution 2008/33 of 25 July 2008 on strengthening coordination of the United Nations and other efforts in fighting trafficking in persons and previous Council resolutions on trafficking in persons,

Welcoming Human Rights Council resolution 11/3 of 17 June 2009 on trafficking in persons, especially women and children,[522]

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[518] Resolution 60/288.

[519] Economic and Social Council resolution 2007/12, annex.

[520] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Ecuador, India, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Mexico, Nicaragua, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkmenistan, United Arab Emirates, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), and Zambia (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States).

[521] Resolutions 55/67, 58/137, 59/166, 61/144, 61/180 and 63/156.

[522] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/64/53), chap. III, sect. A.

Recalling the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime[523] and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[524] the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography[525] and the Supplementary Convention on the Abolition of Slavery, the Slave Trade, and Institutions and Practices Similar to Slavery,[526]

Recognizing that, in accordance with article 32 of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, the Conference of the Parties to the Convention is established to improve the capacity of States parties to combat transnational crime and to promote and review the implementation of the Convention, including the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, by facilitating the development and exchange of relevant information, programmes and practices, and by cooperating with relevant international and regional organizations and non-government organizations, and recognizing also that each State party shall provide the Conference of the Parties with information on its programmes, plans and practices, as well as legislative and administrative measures to implement the Convention,

Taking note of the decisions of the eleventh summit of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union, held in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, on 30 June and 1 July 2008,[527] and of the Fifteenth Summit Conference of Heads of State and Government of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Sharm el-Sheikh from 11 to 16 July 2009,[528] on fostering United Nations global action against human trafficking, the declaration of the European Union Ministerial Conference on the theme "Towards Global European Union Action against Trafficking in Human Beings", held in Brussels on 19 and 20 October 2009, and discussions at other subregional, regional and global forums[529] on the need to unite and coordinate efforts in combating trafficking in persons at the international level,

Recognizing the importance of bilateral, subregional, regional and international cooperation mechanisms and initiatives, including information exchanges on good practices, of Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to address the problem of trafficking in persons, especially women and children,

Recognizing also that broad international cooperation between Member States and relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations is essential for effectively countering the threat of trafficking in persons and other contemporary forms of slavery,

Recognizing further the important role of the United Nations entities, such as the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the United Nations Children's Fund and the International Labour Organization, the International Organization for Migration and other intergovernmental organizations in ensuring effective and comprehensive coordination in the global fight against human trafficking,

Recognizing the need to continue fostering a global partnership against trafficking in persons and other contemporary forms of slavery,

Recognizing also that trafficking in persons impairs the enjoyment of human rights, continues to pose a serious challenge to humanity and requires a concerted international response,

Taking note with appreciation of the United Nations efforts in fighting trafficking in persons, as well as the elaboration of the International Framework for Action to Implement the Trafficking in Persons Protocol,[530] among other efforts, to assist in implementing the Protocol,

Recognizing that the current global economic crises are likely to further aggravate the problem of trafficking in persons,

Aware of the need to raise public awareness with the aim of eliminating the demand for trafficking in persons, in particular for the purpose of sexual exploitation and forced labour,

Reaffirming the commitment made by world leaders at the Millennium Summit[531] and at the 2005 World Summit[532] to devise, enforce and strengthen effective measures to combat and eliminate all forms of trafficking in persons to counter the demand for trafficked victims and to protect the victims,

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[523] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2225, No. 39574.

[524] Ibid., vol. 2237, No. 39574.

[525] Ibid., vol. 2171, No. 27531.

[526] Ibid., vol. 266, No. 3822.

[527] A/63/515, annex I, decision Assembly/AU/Dec.207 (XI).

[528] See A/63/965-S/2009/514, annex.

[529] For example, the Regional Ministerial Conference on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crime, held in Bali, Indonesia, from 26 to 28 February 2002; the European Union-Africa Ministerial Conference on Migration and Development, held in Tripoli on 22 and 23 November 2006; the Third World Congress against Sexual Exploitation of Children and Adolescents, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 25 to 28 November 2008; the international conference on the theme "Human trafficking at the crossroads", held in Manama on 2 and 3 March 2009; and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe Alliance against Trafficking in Persons conference on the prevention of modern slavery, held in Vienna on 14 and 15 September 2009.

[530] Available from www.unodc.org/unodc/en/human-trafficking/publications.html.

[531] See resolution 55/2.

[532] See resolution 60/1.

Welcoming the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on trafficking in persons, especially women and children,[533] and the *Global Report on Trafficking in Persons* of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime,[530]

Welcoming also the report of the Secretary-General on improving the coordination of efforts against trafficking in persons[534] and the background paper submitted by the Secretary-General on 5 May 2009 to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session,[535]

Taking note of the outcomes of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime at its fourth session, held in Vienna from 8 to 17 October 2008, in particular decision 4/4 of 17 October 2008 entitled "Trafficking in human beings",[536] in which the Conference of the Parties underlined the need to continue to work towards a comprehensive and coordinated approach to address the problem of trafficking in persons through the appropriate national, regional and international mechanisms and acknowledged that the Protocol was the principal legally binding global instrument to combat trafficking in persons, and in this regard taking note also of the progress made by the Conference of the Parties open-ended interim Working Group on Trafficking in Persons during its meeting held in Vienna on 14 and 15 April 2009,[537]

Taking note also of the interactive thematic dialogue of the General Assembly on the theme "Taking collective action to end human trafficking", held on 13 May 2009,

Welcoming the accession in 2008–2009 by a number of Member States to the Convention[538] and the Protocol,[539]

1. *Urges* Member States that have not yet done so to consider taking measures to ratify or accede to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime[523] and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[524] and to implement fully all aspects of those instruments;

2. *Also urges* Member States that have not yet done so to consider taking measures to ratify or accede to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography,[525] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[540] and the Supplementary Convention on the Abolition of Slavery, the Slave Trade, and Institutions and Practices Similar to Slavery,[526] and to implement fully all aspects of those instruments;

3. *Welcomes* the steps taken by human rights treaty bodies and the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on trafficking in persons, especially women and children, the Special Rapporteur of the Council on violence against women, its causes and consequences, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on violence against children, the Special Rapporteur of the Council on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography and the Special Rapporteur of the Council on contemporary forms of slavery, including its causes and consequences, and United Nations agencies and other concerned intergovernmental and governmental organizations, within their existing mandates, as well as civil society, to address the serious crime of trafficking in persons, and encourages them to continue doing so and to share their knowledge and best practices as widely as possible;

4. *Calls upon* Governments to continue their efforts to criminalize trafficking in persons in all its forms, including for labour exploitation and sexual exploitation of children, to take measures to criminalize child sex tourism, to condemn the practice of trafficking in persons, and to investigate, prosecute, condemn and penalize traffickers and intermediaries, while providing protection and assistance to the victims of trafficking with full respect for their human rights, and invites Member States to continue to support those United Nations agencies and international organizations that are actively involved in victim protection;

5. *Encourages* all stakeholders, including the private sector, to strengthen the coordination of efforts,

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[533] See A/64/290.

[534] A/64/130.

[535] Available from www.un.org/ga/president/63/letters/SGbackgroundpaper.pdf.

[536] See CTOC/COP/2008/19, chap. I.

[537] See CTOC/COP/WG4/2009/2.

[538] As of 29 September 2009: Bahamas (2008), Brunei Darussalam (2008), Indonesia (2009), Iraq (2008), Jordan (2009), Kazakhstan (2008), Liechtenstein (2008), Luxembourg (2008), Mongolia (2008), Qatar (2008) and Syrian Arab Republic (2009).

[539] As of 29 September 2009: Bahamas (2008), Dominican Republic (2008), Indonesia (2009), Jordan (2009), Kazakhstan (2008), Liechtenstein (2008), Luxembourg (2009), Malaysia (2009), Mongolia (2008), Qatar (2009), Togo (2009) and United Arab Emirates (2009).

[540] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

including through the Inter-Agency Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons and regional and bilateral initiatives that promote cooperation and collaboration;

6. *Recognizes* the importance of comparable data disaggregated by types of trafficking in persons, sex and age, as well as of strengthening national capacity for the gathering, analysing and reporting of such data, and welcomes the efforts of the Inter-Agency Coordination Group, drawing on the comparative advantages of the respective agencies, to share information, experiences and good practices on anti-trafficking activities of the partner agencies with Governments, other international and regional organizations, non-governmental organizations and other relevant bodies;

7. *Acknowledges* the important work on data collection and analysis conducted by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime under its Global Programme against Trafficking in Human Beings, by the International Organization for Migration through its global Counter-Trafficking Module database and by the International Labour Organization;

8. *Takes note with appreciation* of the decision of the President of the sixty-third session of the General Assembly to appoint the co-facilitators to start consultations and consideration by Member States of a United Nations global plan of action on preventing trafficking in persons, prosecuting traffickers and protecting and assisting victims of trafficking, and stresses the need for the consultations to be held in an open, inclusive and transparent manner, taking into account all the views expressed by Member States;

9. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to provide the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme with sufficient resources for the full implementation of its mandates on combating trafficking in persons, in conformity with its high priorities, and to provide adequate support to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, and invites Member States to provide voluntary contributions to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime for the purpose of providing assistance to Member States upon request;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to invite, as appropriate, regional organizations to share information on challenges experienced and best practices in coordinating efforts to prevent and combat trafficking in persons;

11. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 64/179

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/440 and Corr.1, para. 24)[541]

64/179. Strengthening the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, in particular its technical cooperation capacity

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 46/152 of 18 December 1991, 60/1 of 16 September 2005, 60/177 of 16 December 2005, 61/252 of 22 December 2006, 63/193, 63/194 and 63/195 of 18 December 2008 and 63/226 of 19 December 2008,

Taking note with appreciation of the adoption by the Economic and Social Council of the strategy for the period 2008–2011 for the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime,[542] which aims, inter alia, to enhance its effectiveness and flexibility in providing technical assistance and policy services,

Reaffirming its resolutions relating to the urgent need to strengthen international cooperation and technical assistance in promoting and facilitating the ratification and implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto,[543] the United Nations Convention against Corruption[544] and all the international conventions and protocols against terrorism, including those that recently entered into force,

Reaffirming also the commitments undertaken by Member States in the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism

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[541] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Namibia, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

[542] Economic and Social Council resolution 2007/12, annex.

[543] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vols. 2225, 2237, 2241 and 2326, No. 39574.

[544] Ibid., vol. 2349, No. 42146.

Strategy adopted on 8 September 2006,[545] and its review of 4 and 5 September 2008,[546]

Emphasizing that its resolution 61/143 of 19 December 2006 on the intensification of efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women has considerable implications for the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme and its activities,

Welcoming the outcome of the thematic discussion on aspects of violence against women that pertain directly to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice held by the Commission at its seventeenth session, in 2008, pursuant to Economic and Social Council decision 2007/253 of 26 July 2007,[547]

Taking into consideration all relevant Economic and Social Council resolutions, in particular resolutions 2008/23, 2008/24 and 2008/25 of 24 July 2008, and all those relating to the strengthening of international cooperation as well as the technical assistance and advisory services of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, promotion and reinforcement of the rule of law and reform of criminal justice institutions, including with regard to the implementation of technical assistance,

Welcoming the outcome of the thematic discussions on economic fraud and identity-related crime and on penal reform and the reduction of prison overcrowding, including the provision of legal aid in criminal justice systems held by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its eighteenth session, in 2009, pursuant to Economic and Social Council decision 2008/245 of 24 July 2008,[548]

Taking note of the *Global Report on Trafficking in Persons* of February 2009 of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime[549] and of the joint Council of Europe/United Nations study entitled *Trafficking in organs, tissues and cells and trafficking in human beings for the purpose of the removal of organs*, launched on 13 October 2009,[550]

Expressing its grave concern at the negative effects of transnational organized crime, including smuggling of and trafficking in human beings, narcotic drugs and small arms and light weapons, on development, peace and security and human rights, and at the increasing vulnerability of States to such crime,

Concerned by the serious challenges and threats posed by the illicit trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition, and about its links with other forms of transnational organized crime, including drug trafficking and other criminal activities, including terrorism,

Emphasizing that transnational organized crime must be addressed in full respect of the principle of the sovereignty of States and in accordance with the rule of law as part of a comprehensive response to promote durable solutions through the promotion of human rights and more equitable socio-economic conditions,

Concerned about the growing degree of penetration of criminal organizations and their proceeds into the economy,

Recognizing that actions against transnational organized crime and terrorism are a common and shared responsibility, and stressing the need to work collectively to prevent and combat transnational organized crime, corruption and terrorism in all its forms and manifestations,

Recognizing also the need to maintain a balance in the technical cooperation capacity of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime between all relevant priorities identified by the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council,

Recalling that 2010 marks the tenth anniversary of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, and mindful of the need to ensure universal adherence to and full implementation of the Convention and the Protocols thereto,

Welcoming the adoption by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime of a regional approach to programming, based on continued consultations and partnerships at the national and regional levels, particularly on its implementation, and focused on ensuring that the Office responds in a sustainable and coherent manner to the priorities of Member States,

Taking note of the implementation of the Political Declaration on Combating Illicit Drug Trafficking, Organized Crime, Terrorism and Other Serious Crime in the Caribbean, adopted in Santo Domingo on 19 February 2009,[551] as well as the outcomes of the Ministerial Conference on Illicit Drug Trafficking, Transnational Organized Crime and Terrorism as Challenges for Security and Development in Central America, held in Managua on 23 and 24 June 2009,[552] as an example of the new regional programme approach of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime,

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[545] Resolution 60/288.

[546] See resolution 62/272; see also *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Plenary Meetings*, 117th to 120th meetings (A/62/PV.117–120), and corrigendum.

[547] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2008, Supplement No. 10* (E/2008/30), chap. II.

[548] Ibid., *2009, Supplement No. 10* (E/2009/30), chap. II.

[549] Available from www.unodc.org/unodc/en/human-trafficking/publications.html.

[550] Available from www.coe.int/trafficking.

[551] Available from www.unodc.org/mexico/es/cm-rd.html.

[552] Available from www.unodc.org/mexico/es/cm-managua09.html.

Recognizing the general progress made by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in the delivery of advisory services and assistance to requesting Member States in the areas of corruption, organized crime, money-laundering, terrorism, kidnapping and trafficking in persons, including the support and protection, as appropriate, of victims, their families and witnesses, as well as drug trafficking and international cooperation, with special emphasis on extradition and mutual legal assistance,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the progress made in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 63/195;[553]

2. *Also takes note with appreciation* of the reports of the Secretary-General on improving the coordination of efforts against trafficking in persons,[554] on assistance in implementing the universal conventions and protocols related to terrorism[555] and on strengthening the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, in particular its technical cooperation capacity;[556]

3. *Reaffirms* the importance of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto[543] as the main tools of the international community to fight transnational organized crime;

4. *Also reaffirms* the importance of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme in promoting effective action to strengthen international cooperation in crime prevention and criminal justice, as well as of the work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in the fulfilment of its mandate in crime prevention and criminal justice, including providing to Member States, upon request and as a matter of high priority, technical cooperation, advisory services and other forms of assistance, and coordinating with and complementing the work of all relevant and competent United Nations bodies and offices;

5. *Calls upon* Member States to strengthen their efforts to cooperate, as appropriate, at the bilateral, subregional, regional and international levels to counter effectively transnational organized crime;

6. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to enhance its efforts, within existing resources and within its mandate, in providing technical assistance and advisory services for the implementation of its regional and subregional programmes in a coordinated manner with relevant Member States and regional and subregional organizations;

7. *Also requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to finalize, as soon as possible, the Santo Domingo Pact, as well as other regional programmes, and the Managua Mechanism document for approval by the States parties in order to start their implementation with all active partners at the subregional, regional and international levels;

8. *Urges* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue providing technical assistance to Member States to combat money-laundering and the financing of terrorism through the Global Programme against Money-Laundering, in accordance with United Nations related instruments and internationally accepted standards, including, where applicable, recommendations of relevant intergovernmental bodies, inter alia, the Financial Action Task Force on Money Laundering, and relevant initiatives of regional, interregional and multilateral organizations against money-laundering;

9. *Recognizes* the efforts made by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to assist Member States in developing abilities and strengthening their capacity to prevent and combat kidnapping, and requests the Office to continue to provide technical assistance with a view to fostering international cooperation, in particular mutual legal assistance, aimed at countering effectively this growing serious crime;

10. *Urges* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to increase collaboration with intergovernmental, international and regional organizations that have transnational organized crime mandates, as appropriate, in order to share best practices and to take advantage of their unique and comparative advantage;

11. *Draws attention* to the emerging policy issues identified in the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the mandates of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, with particular reference to the technical cooperation activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime,[553] namely, piracy, cybercrime, sexual exploitation of children and urban crime, and invites the Office to explore, within its mandate, ways and means of addressing those issues, bearing in mind Economic and Social Council resolutions 2007/12 of 25 July 2007 and 2007/19 of 26 July 2007 on the strategy for the period 2008–2011 for the Office;

12. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, within its existing mandate, to strengthen the collection, analysis and dissemination of information to enhance knowledge on crime trends and support Member States in designing appropriate responses in specific areas of crime, in particular in their transnational dimension, taking into account the need to make the best possible use of existing resources;

13. *Urges* Member States and relevant international organizations to develop national and regional strategies, as appropriate, and other necessary measures, in cooperation with

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[553] A/64/123.

[554] A/64/130.

[555] A/63/89.

[556] A/63/99.

the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, to address effectively transnational organized crime, including trafficking in persons, the smuggling of migrants and illicit manufacturing of and transnational trafficking in firearms, as well as corruption and terrorism;

14. *Urges* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to assist Member States, upon request, in combating the illicit trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition, and to support them in their efforts to address its links with other forms of transnational organized crime, through, inter alia, technical assistance;

15. *Encourages* Member States to utilize, as needed, the organized crime threat assessment handbook produced by the United Nations in order to establish an accurate and uniform assessment of domestic threat and to develop responsive and appropriate strategies to combat crime;

16. *Reaffirms* the importance of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and its regional offices in building capacity at the local level in the fight against transnational organized crime and drug trafficking, and urges the Office to consider regional vulnerabilities, projects and impact in the fight against transnational organized crime, in particular in developing countries, when deciding to close and allocate offices, with a view to maintaining an effective level of support to national and regional efforts in those areas;

17. *Encourages* Member States to support the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in continuing to provide targeted technical assistance, within its existing mandate, to enhance the capacity of affected States, upon their request, to combat piracy by sea, including by assisting Member States in creating an effective law enforcement response and strengthening their judicial capacity;

18. *Urges* Member States that have not yet done so to consider ratifying or acceding to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto, the United Nations Convention against Corruption[544] and the international conventions and protocols related to terrorism;

19. *Encourages* States parties to continue to provide full support to the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption, including providing information to the conferences regarding compliance with the treaties;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General, within the framework of the tenth anniversary of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, to convene in the second quarter of 2010 a special one-day high-level meeting of the General Assembly on transnational organized crime, aimed at fostering universal adherence to the Convention and the Protocols thereto and at strengthening international cooperation;

21. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, within the framework of the tenth anniversary of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, to organize a special treaty event to promote ratification or accession to the Convention and the Protocols thereto during the special one-day high-level meeting of the General Assembly referred to in paragraph 20 above;

22. *Urges* Member States to be represented at the Twelfth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at the highest possible level, and encourages States to continue their preparations for the Congress with a view to making focused and productive contributions to the discussions;

23. *Welcomes* the progress achieved by the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption in the implementation of their respective mandates, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to provide the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime with adequate resources to promote, in an effective manner, the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the United Nations Convention against Corruption and to discharge its functions as the secretariat of the conferences of the parties to the conventions, in accordance with its mandate;

24. *Also welcomes* the progress achieved by the three open-ended intergovernmental working groups on the United Nations Convention against Corruption, established by the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention, in particular the development of the terms of reference of a review mechanism, and looks forward to the relevant decisions of the Conference of the States Parties at its third session;

25. *Reiterates its request* to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to enhance its technical assistance to Member States, upon request, to strengthen international cooperation in preventing and combating terrorism through the facilitation of the ratification and implementation of the universal conventions and protocols related to terrorism, in close consultation with the Counter-Terrorism Committee and its Executive Directorate, as well as to continue to contribute to the work of the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force, and invites Member States to provide the Office with appropriate resources for its mandate;

26. *Takes note* of the report of the intergovernmental group of experts to review and update the Model Strategies and Practical Measures on the Elimination of Violence against

Women in the Field of Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice,[557] convened in accordance with Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice decision 17/1 of 18 April 2008 entitled "Strengthening crime prevention and criminal justice responses to violence against women and girls",[558] and looks forward to the consideration of the report of the intergovernmental group of experts by the Commission at its nineteenth session, to be held in Vienna in May 2010;

27. *Encourages* Member States to take relevant measures, as appropriate to their national contexts, to ensure the diffusion, use and application of the United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice, including the consideration and, where they deem it necessary, dissemination of existing manuals and handbooks developed and published by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

28. *Reiterates* the importance of providing the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme with sufficient, stable and predictable funding for the full implementation of its mandates, in conformity with the high priority accorded to it and in accordance with the increasing demand for its services, in particular with regard to the provision of increased assistance to developing countries, countries with economies in transition and those emerging from conflict, in the area of crime prevention and criminal justice reform;

29. *Welcomes* resolution 18/3 of 24 April 2009 entitled "Improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime", adopted by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its eighteenth session, held in Vienna from 16 to 24 April 2009,[559] by which the Commission adopted the recommendations of the open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and established a standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on governance and finance, whose mandate shall be in effect until the session of the Commission to be held in the first half of 2011;

30. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to provide the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme with sufficient resources for the full implementation of its mandates, in conformity with its high priorities, and to provide adequate support to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice;

31. *Recommends* to the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, within the framework of the tenth anniversary of the Convention, to organize a high-level segment during the fifth session of the Conference of the Parties to discuss new and emerging forms of crime and ways and means of enhancing the implementation of the Convention and the Protocols thereto;

32. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session on the implementation of the mandates of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, reflecting also emerging policy issues and possible responses;

33. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to include in the report referred to in paragraph 32 above information on the status of ratifications or accessions to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto.

RESOLUTION 64/180

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/440 and Corr.1, para. 24)[560]

64/180. Preparations for the Twelfth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 56/119 of 19 December 2001 on the role, function, periodicity and duration of the United Nations congresses on the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders, in which it stipulated the guidelines in accordance with which, beginning in 2005, the congresses, pursuant to paragraphs 29 and 30 of the statement of principles and programme of action of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme,[561] should be held,

Recalling also its resolution 60/177 of 16 December 2005 on the follow-up to the Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice,

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[557] Resolution 52/86, annex.

[558] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2008, Supplement No. 10* (E/2008/30), chap. I, sect. D.

[559] Ibid., *2009, Supplement No. 10* (E/2009/30), chap. I, sect. D.

[560] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Burundi, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Malawi, Mexico, Mozambique, Namibia, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Panama, Philippines, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Senegal, Turkey, United Republic of Tanzania and Uruguay.

[561] Resolution 46/152, annex.

Recalling further its resolution 63/193 of 18 December 2008, in which it decided that the main theme of the Twelfth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice should be "Comprehensive strategies for global challenges: crime prevention and criminal justice systems and their development in a changing world",

Recalling that, in its resolution 63/193, it requested the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to accord sufficient time at its eighteenth session to reviewing the progress made in the preparations for the Twelfth Congress, to finalize in good time all the necessary organizational and substantive arrangements and to make its final recommendations, through the Economic and Social Council, to the General Assembly,

Recognizing the significant contributions of the congresses in promoting the exchange of experience in research, law and policy development and the identification of emerging trends and issues in crime prevention and criminal justice among States, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and individual experts representing various professions and disciplines,

Recognizing also the efforts already made by the Government of Brazil to prepare for the hosting of the Twelfth Congress in Salvador from 12 to 19 April 2010,

Stressing the importance of undertaking all the preparatory activities for the Twelfth Congress in a timely and concerted manner,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General;[562]

2. *Also takes note with appreciation* of the discussion guide prepared by the Secretary-General, in cooperation with the institutes of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network, for the regional preparatory meetings for the Twelfth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice;[563]

3. *Acknowledges* the relevance of the regional preparatory meetings, which have examined the substantive items of the agenda and the workshop topics of the Twelfth Congress and made action-oriented recommendations[564] to serve as a basis for the draft declaration to be adopted by the Twelfth Congress;

4. *Requests* the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to begin preparation of a draft declaration at intersessional meetings to be held well in advance of the Twelfth Congress, taking into account the recommendations of the regional preparatory meetings;

5. *Reiterates* its decision, contained in its resolution 63/193, that the high-level segment of the Twelfth Congress shall be held during the last two days of the Congress in order to allow Heads of State or Government or government ministers to focus on the main substantive agenda items of the Congress;

6. *Emphasizes* the importance of the workshops to be held during the Twelfth Congress, and invites Member States, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and other relevant entities to provide financial, organizational and technical support to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and to the institutes of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network for the preparations for the workshops, including the preparation and circulation of relevant background material;

7. *Invites* donor countries to cooperate with developing countries to ensure their full participation in the workshops, and encourages States, other entities concerned and the Secretary-General to work together in order to ensure that the workshops focus on the respective issues and achieve practical results, leading to technical cooperation ideas, projects and documents related to enhancing bilateral and multilateral efforts in technical assistance activities in crime prevention and criminal justice;

8. *Reiterates its invitation* to Governments and relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to inform the Twelfth Congress about their activities aimed at the implementation of the Bangkok Declaration on Synergies and Responses: Strategic Alliances in Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice,[565] with a view to providing guidance in the formulation of legislation, policies and programmes in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice at the national and international levels, and to that end requests the Secretary-General to compile that information and to prepare a report on the subject to be submitted to the Congress for consideration;

9. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to make available the resources necessary to ensure the participation of the least developed countries in the Twelfth Congress, in accordance with past practice;

10. *Encourages* Governments to make preparations for the Twelfth Congress at an early stage by all appropriate means, including, where appropriate, the establishment of national preparatory committees, with a view to contributing

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[562] E/CN.15/2009/9.

[563] A/CONF.213/PM.1.

[564] See A/CONF.213/RPM.1/1, A/CONF.213/RPM.2/1, A/CONF.213/RPM.3/1 and A/CONF.213/RPM.4/1.

[565] Resolution 60/177, annex.

to a focused and productive discussion on the topics and to participating actively in the organization and conduct of the workshops, the submission of national position papers on the various substantive items of the agenda and the encouragement of contributions from the academic community and relevant scientific institutions;

11. *Reiterates its invitation* to Member States to be represented at the Twelfth Congress at the highest possible level, for example by Heads of State or Government or government ministers and attorneys general, and to participate actively in the high-level segment;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to facilitate the organization of ancillary meetings of non-governmental and professional organizations participating in the Twelfth Congress, in accordance with past practice, as well as meetings of professional and geographical interest groups, and to take appropriate measures to encourage the participation of the academic and research community in the Congress;

13. *Encourages* the relevant specialized agencies and programmes of the United Nations system and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, as well as other professional organizations, to cooperate with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in the preparations for the Twelfth Congress;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure, in collaboration with Member States, a wide and effective programme of public information relating to the preparations for the Twelfth Congress, to the Congress itself and to the follow-up to and implementation of its recommendations;

15. *Welcomes* the appointment by the Secretary-General of a Secretary-General and an Executive Secretary of the Twelfth Congress, to perform their functions under the rules of procedure for United Nations congresses on crime prevention and criminal justice;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare an overview of the state of crime and criminal justice worldwide for presentation at the Twelfth Congress, in accordance with past practice;

17. *Calls upon* the Twelfth Congress to formulate concrete proposals for further follow-up and action, paying particular attention to practical arrangements relating to the effective implementation of the international legal instruments pertaining to transnational organized crime, terrorism and corruption and technical assistance activities relating thereto;

18. *Requests* the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its nineteenth session to give high priority to considering the conclusions and recommendations of the Twelfth Congress, with a view to recommending, through the Economic and Social Council, appropriate follow-up by the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure proper follow-up to the present resolution and to report thereon, through the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session.

RESOLUTION 64/181

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/440 and Corr.1, para. 24)[566]

64/181. United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 63/196 of 18 December 2008 and all other relevant resolutions,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[567]

Bearing in mind that weaknesses in crime prevention lead to subsequent difficulties at the level of crime control mechanisms, and bearing in mind also the urgent need to establish effective crime prevention strategies for Africa, as well as the importance of law enforcement agencies and the judiciary at the regional and subregional levels,

Aware of the devastating impact of new and more dynamic crime trends on the national economies of African States and of the fact that crime is a major obstacle to harmonious and sustainable development in Africa,

Noting with concern that in most African countries the existing criminal justice system does not have sufficiently skilled personnel and adequate infrastructure and is therefore ill-equipped to manage the emergence of new crime trends, and acknowledging that weak laws and existing justice systems undermine efforts to facilitate the prosecution of these new crime trends,

Bearing in mind the Revised African Union Plan of Action on Drug Control and Crime Prevention (2007–2012), aimed at encouraging Member States to participate in and own the regional initiatives for effective crime prevention and good governance and strengthened justice administration,

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[566] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Uganda (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States).

[567] A/64/121.

Emphasizing the need to create necessary coalitions with all partners in the process of achieving effective crime prevention policies,

Recognizing that the United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders is a focal point for all professional efforts aimed at promoting the active cooperation and collaboration of Governments, academics, institutions and scientific and professional organizations and experts in crime prevention and criminal justice,

Noting that the financial situation of the Institute has greatly affected its capacity to deliver its services to African Member States in an effective and comprehensive manner,

1. *Commends* the United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders for its efforts to promote and coordinate regional technical cooperation activities related to crime prevention and criminal justice systems in Africa;

2. *Also commends* the initiative of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in strengthening its working relationship with the Institute by supporting and involving the Institute in the implementation of a number of activities, including those contained in the Revised African Union Plan of Action on Drug Control and Crime Prevention (2007–2012), on strengthening the rule of law and criminal justice systems in Africa;

3. *Reiterates* the need to strengthen further the capacity of the Institute to support national mechanisms for crime prevention and criminal justice in African countries;

4. *Notes* the efforts of the Institute to establish contacts with organizations in those countries which are promoting crime prevention programmes and its maintenance of close links with regional and subregional political entities, such as the African Union Commission, the East African Community, the Commission of the Economic Community of West African States, the Intergovernmental Authority on Development and the Southern African Development Community;

5. *Urges* the States members of the Institute to continue to make every possible effort to meet their obligations to the Institute;

6. *Welcomes* the decision of the Governing Board of the Institute, at its fourth extraordinary session, held in Nairobi on 2 March 2009, to convene a conference of African ministers in November 2009 to discuss measures for improving the flow of resources to the Institute;

7. *Also welcomes* the introduction by the Institute of a cost-sharing initiative in its execution of various programmes with Member States, partners and United Nations entities;

8. *Urges* all Member States and non-governmental organizations and the international community to continue adopting concrete practical measures to support the Institute in the development of the requisite capacity and in the implementation of its programmes and activities aimed at strengthening crime prevention and criminal justice systems in Africa;

9. *Urges* all States that have not already done so to consider ratifying or acceding to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto,[368] as well as the United Nations Convention against Corruption;[369]

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to intensify efforts to mobilize all relevant entities of the United Nations system to provide the necessary financial and technical support to the Institute to enable it to fulfil its mandate;

11. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to mobilize the financial resources necessary to maintain the Institute with the core professional staff required to enable it to function effectively in the fulfilment of its mandated obligations;

12. *Encourages* the Institute to consider focusing on specific and general vulnerabilities of each programme country and to maximize the use of available initiatives to address crime problems with existing funds, as well as available capacity, by creating useful coalitions with regional and local institutions;

13. *Calls upon* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to work closely with the Institute;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to enhance the promotion of regional cooperation, coordination and collaboration in the fight against crime, especially in its transnational dimension, which cannot be dealt with adequately by national action alone;

15. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue making concrete proposals, including for the provision of additional core professional staff, to strengthen the programmes and activities of the Institute and to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

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[368] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vols. 2225, 2237, 2241 and 2326, No. 39574.

[369] Ibid., vol. 2349, No. 42146.

RESOLUTION 64/182

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/441, para. 11)[570]

64/182. International cooperation against the world drug problem

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the Political Declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session,[571] the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction,[572] the Action Plan on International Cooperation on the Eradication of Illicit Drug Crops and on Alternative Development,[573] the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction[574] and the joint ministerial statement adopted at the ministerial segment of the forty-sixth session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs,[575]

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[576] the provisions of the 2005 World Summit Outcome[577] addressing the world drug problem, the Political Declaration on HIV/AIDS[578] and other relevant United Nations resolutions, including General Assembly resolution 63/197 of 18 December 2008 and those on regional and international cooperation to prevent the diversion and smuggling of precursors,

Gravely concerned that, despite continuing increased efforts by States, relevant organizations, civil society and non-governmental organizations, the world drug problem continues to constitute a serious threat to public health and safety and the well-being of humanity, in particular children and young people and their families, and to the national security and sovereignty of States, and that it undermines socio-economic and political stability and sustainable development,

Welcoming the outcome of the high-level segment of the fifty-second session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs,[579] and in that regard recalling resolution 63/197, in which the General Assembly decided to consider the results of the high-level segment at a plenary meeting of the Assembly at its sixty-fourth session,

Recalling resolutions adopted by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its fifty-second session,[580] in particular resolutions 52/2, 52/3, 52/4 and 52/10 of 20 March 2009, and noting the outcomes of all the round-table discussions of the high-level segment of that session,[579]

Reaffirming that countering the world drug problem in all its aspects requires a political commitment to reducing supply, as an integral component of a balanced and comprehensive drug control strategy, in accordance with the principles enshrined in the Political Declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session and the measures to enhance international cooperation to counter the drug problem,[581] including the Action Plan on International Cooperation on the Eradication of Illicit Drug Crops and on Alternative Development, also adopted at that session,

Reaffirming equally that reducing illicit drug use and its consequences requires a political commitment to efforts to reduce demand, which must be demonstrated by sustained widespread demand reduction initiatives that integrate a comprehensive public health approach spanning the spectrum of prevention, education, early intervention, treatment, recovery support, rehabilitation and reintegration efforts, in accordance with the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction, adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session,

Recognizing that international cooperation in demand reduction and supply reduction has shown that positive results can be achieved through sustained and collective efforts, and expressing its appreciation for the initiatives in this regard,

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[570] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, France, Gabon, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Namibia, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Spain, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Ukraine, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay and Zimbabwe.

[571] Resolution S-20/2, annex.

[572] Resolution S-20/3, annex.

[573] Resolution S-20/4 E.

[574] Resolution 54/132, annex.

[575] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2003, Supplement No. 8* (E/2003/28/Rev.1), chap. I, sect. C; see also A/58/124, sect. II.A.

[576] See resolution 55/2.

[577] See resolution 60/1.

[578] Resolution 60/262, annex.

[579] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2009, Supplement No. 8* (E/2009/28), chap. X; see also A/64/92-E/2009/98, sect. II.

[580] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2009, Supplement No. 8* (E/2009/28), chap. I, sect. C.

[581] Resolutions S-20/4 A–E.

Reaffirming that the world drug problem remains a common and shared responsibility that requires effective and increased international cooperation and demands an integrated, multidisciplinary, mutually reinforcing and balanced approach to supply and demand reduction strategies,

1. *Adopts* the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem, as adopted at the high-level segment of the fifty-second session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs,[582] and calls upon States to take the measures necessary to fully implement the actions set out therein, with a view to attaining in a timely manner their goals and targets;

2. *Reaffirms* that countering the world drug problem is a common and shared responsibility that must be addressed in a multilateral setting, requires an integrated and balanced approach and must be carried out in full conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and other provisions of international law, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[583] and the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action[584] on human rights, and, in particular, with full respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States, for the principle of non-intervention in the internal affairs of States and for all human rights and fundamental freedoms, and on the basis of the principles of equal rights and mutual respect;

3. *Undertakes* to promote bilateral, regional and international cooperation, including through intelligence-sharing and cross-border cooperation, aimed at countering the world drug problem more effectively, in particular by encouraging and supporting such cooperation by those States most directly affected by illicit crop cultivation and the illicit production, manufacture, transit, trafficking, distribution and abuse of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances;

4. *Reiterates* the commitment of Member States to promoting, developing, reviewing or strengthening effective, comprehensive, integrated drug demand reduction programmes, based on scientific evidence and covering a range of measures, including primary prevention, early intervention, treatment, care, rehabilitation, social reintegration and related support services, aimed at promoting health and social well-being among individuals, families and communities and reducing the adverse consequences of drug abuse for individuals and society as a whole, taking into account the particular challenges posed by high-risk drug users, in full compliance with the three international drug control conventions and in accordance with national legislation, and commits Member States to investing increased resources in ensuring access to those interventions on a non-discriminatory basis, including in detention facilities, bearing in mind that those interventions should also consider vulnerabilities that undermine human development, such as poverty and social marginalization;

5. *Notes with great concern* the adverse consequences of drug abuse for individuals and society as a whole, reaffirms the commitment of all Member States to tackling those problems in the context of comprehensive, complementary and multisectoral drug demand reduction strategies, in particular such strategies targeting youth, also notes with great concern the alarming rise in the incidence of HIV/AIDS and other blood-borne diseases among injecting drug users, reaffirms the commitment of all Member States to working towards the goal of universal access to comprehensive prevention programmes and treatment, care and related support services, in full compliance with the international drug control conventions and in accordance with national legislation, taking into account all relevant General Assembly resolutions and, when applicable, the *WHO, UNODC, UNAIDS Technical Guide for Countries to Set Targets for Universal Access to HIV Prevention, Treatment and Care for Injecting Drug Users*,[585] and requests the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to carry out its mandate in this area in close cooperation with relevant organizations and programmes of the United Nations system, such as the World Health Organization, the United Nations Development Programme and the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS);

6. *Acknowledges* the continuing efforts made and progress achieved in countering the world drug problem, notes with great concern the unprecedented surge in the illicit production of and trafficking in opium, the continuing illicit manufacture of and trafficking in cocaine, the increasing illicit production of and trafficking in cannabis and the increasing diversion of precursors, as well as the related distribution and use of illicit drugs, and stresses the need to strengthen and intensify joint efforts at the national, regional and international levels to tackle those global challenges in a more comprehensive manner, in accordance with the principle of common and shared responsibility, including by means of enhanced and better coordinated technical and financial assistance;

7. *Recognizes* that:

(*a*) Sustainable crop control strategies targeting the illicit cultivation of crops used for the production of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances require international cooperation based on the principle of shared responsibility and an integrated and balanced approach, taking into account the rule of law and, where appropriate, security concerns, with full respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States, the principle of non-intervention in the internal affairs of States and all human rights and fundamental freedoms;

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[582] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2009, Supplement No. 8* (E/2009/28), chap. I, sect. C; see also A/64/92-E/2009/98, sect. II.A.

[583] Resolution 217 A (III).

[584] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[585] Available from www.who.int/hiv/pub/idu/targetsetting/en/index.html.

(*b*) Such crop control strategies include, inter alia, alternative development and, where appropriate, preventive alternative development programmes, eradication and law enforcement measures;

(*c*) Such crop control strategies should be in full conformity with article 14 of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988[586] and appropriately coordinated and phased in accordance with national policies in order to achieve the sustainable eradication of illicit crops, noting furthermore the need for Member States to undertake to increase long-term investment in such strategies, coordinated with other development measures, in order to contribute to the sustainability of social and economic development and poverty eradication in affected rural areas, taking due account of the traditional licit uses of crops where there is historical evidence of such use and giving due consideration to the protection of the environment;

8. *Also recognizes* the significant role played by developing countries with extensive expertise in alternative development in promoting best practices and lessons learned from such programmes, and invites them to continue sharing those best practices with States affected by illicit crop cultivation, including those emerging from conflict, with a view to using them, where appropriate, in accordance with the national specificities of each State;

9. *Stresses* the urgent need to respond to the serious challenges posed by the increasing links between drug trafficking, corruption and other forms of organized crime, including trafficking in human beings, trafficking in firearms, cybercrime and, in some cases, terrorism and money-laundering, including money-laundering in connection with the financing of terrorism, and to the significant challenges faced by law enforcement and judicial authorities in responding to the ever-changing means used by transnational criminal organizations to avoid detection and prosecution;

10. *Reaffirms* the importance of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and its regional offices in building capacity at the local level in the fight against transnational organized crime and drug trafficking, and urges the Office to consider regional vulnerabilities, projects and impact in the fight against drug trafficking, in particular in developing countries, when deciding to close and allocate offices, with a view to maintaining an effective level of support to national and regional efforts in combating the world drug problem;

11. *Urges* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to increase collaboration with intergovernmental, international and relevant regional organizations involved in combating the world drug problem, as appropriate, in order to share best practices and to maximize the benefits from their unique comparative advantage;

12. *Recognizes* the need to collect relevant data and information regarding international cooperation for countering the world drug problem at the national, bilateral, subregional, regional and international levels, and urges all Member States to support dialogue through the Commission on Narcotic Drugs in order to address this issue;

13. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, upon request, to continue providing technical assistance to Member States so as to enhance capacity in countering the world drug problem, including by carrying out training programmes to develop indicators and instruments for the collection and analysis of accurate, reliable and comparable data on all relevant aspects of the world drug problem and, where appropriate, the enhancement or development of new national indicators and instruments;

14. *Urges* all Governments to provide the fullest possible financial and political support to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime by widening its donor base and increasing voluntary contributions, in particular general-purpose contributions, so as to enable it to continue, expand, improve and strengthen its operational and technical cooperation activities, within its mandates, in particular with a view to the full implementation of the Political Declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session[571] and the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem adopted at the high-level segment of the fifty-second session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, as well as, where appropriate, relevant resolutions adopted by the Commission at that session,[580] and recommends that a sufficient share of the regular budget of the United Nations continue to be allocated to the Office to enable it to carry out its mandates in a consistent and stable manner;

15. *Encourages* the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, as the principal policymaking organ of the United Nations on matters of international drug control and as the governing body of the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, and the International Narcotics Control Board to strengthen their useful work on the control of precursors and other chemicals used in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances;

16. *Urges* States that have not done so to consider ratifying or acceding to, and States parties to implement, as a matter of priority, all the provisions of the Single Convention on

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[586] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1582, No. 27627.

Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol,[587] the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971,[588] the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988, the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto[589] and the United Nations Convention against Corruption;[590]

17. *Urges* all Member States to implement the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction[574] and to strengthen their national efforts to counter the abuse of illicit drugs in their populations, in particular among children and young people;

18. *Takes note* of the outcome of the high-level segment of the fifty-second session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs,[579] the *World Drug Report 2009* of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime[591] and the most recent report of the International Narcotics Control Board,[592] and calls upon States to strengthen international and regional cooperation to counter the threat to the international community caused by the illicit production of and trafficking in drugs, as well as other aspects of the world drug problem, and to continue to take concerted measures, such as within the framework of the Paris Pact[593] and other relevant international initiatives;

19. *Notes* that the International Narcotics Control Board needs sufficient resources to carry out all its mandates, reaffirms the importance of its work, encourages it to continue to carry out its work in accordance with its mandates, urges Member States to commit themselves in a common effort to assigning, where possible, adequate and sufficient budgetary resources to the Board, in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/20 of 23 July 1996, emphasizes the need to maintain its capacity, inter alia, through the provision of appropriate means by the Secretary-General and adequate technical support from the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, and calls for enhanced cooperation and understanding between Member States and the Board to enable it to implement all its mandates under the international drug control conventions;

20. *Welcomes* the important role played by civil society, in particular non-governmental organizations, in addressing the world drug problem, notes with appreciation their important contribution to the review process, and also notes that representatives of affected populations and civil society entities, where appropriate, should be enabled to play a participatory role in the formulation and implementation of drug demand and supply reduction policy;

21. *Recommends* that the Economic and Social Council devote one of its high-level segments to a theme related to the world drug problem, and also recommends that the General Assembly hold a special session to address the world drug problem;

22. *Encourages* the meetings of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies and of the Subcommission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to continue to contribute to the strengthening of regional and international cooperation, and in this regard acknowledges the discussions that took place at the nineteenth meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean, held on Isla Margarita, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, from 28 September to 2 October 2009, on how to improve cooperation among the States of Latin America and the Caribbean and the States of West Africa in combating drug trafficking;[594]

23. *Welcomes* the ongoing efforts to strengthen regional cooperation in combating illicit trafficking in drugs and the diversion of precursor chemicals undertaken by the members of the Commonwealth of Independent States, the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, the Economic Cooperation Organization, the Collective Security Treaty Organization, the Eurasian Group on Combating Money-Laundering and Financing of Terrorism and other relevant subregional and regional organizations, including the adoption of the plan of action on combating terrorism, illicit drug trafficking and organized crime at the special conference held under the auspices of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization in Moscow on 27 March 2009[595] and the efforts undertaken within the framework of the permanent counter-narcotics mechanism "Channel";

24. *Acknowledges* other ongoing regional efforts to combat illicit trafficking in drugs, such as those of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Senior Officials on Drug Matters, who adopted the Association workplan on combating illicit drug production, trafficking and use (2009–2015) at their thirtieth meeting, held in Phnom Penh from 29 September to 20 October 2009, with the aim of achieving a drug-free South-East Asia by 2015;

25. *Calls upon* the relevant United Nations agencies and entities and other international organizations, and invites

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[587] Ibid., vol. 976, No. 14152.

[588] Ibid., vol. 1019, No. 14956.

[589] Ibid., vols. 2225, 2237, 2241 and 2326, No. 39574.

[590] Ibid., vol. 2349, No. 42146.

[591] United Nations publication, Sales No. E.09.XI.12.

[592] United Nations publication, Sales No. E.09.XI.1.

[593] See S/2003/641, annex.

[594] See UNODC/HONLAC/19/5.

[595] See A/63/805-S/2009/177, annex I.

international financial institutions, including regional development banks, to mainstream drug control issues into their programmes, and calls upon the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to maintain its leading role by providing relevant information and technical assistance;

26. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[596] and requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 64/238

Adopted at the 68th plenary meeting, on 24 December 2009, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/439/Add.3, para. 18),[597] by a recorded vote of 86 to 23, with 39 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Bulgaria, Burundi, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Maldives, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Namibia, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Palau, Panama, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay

Against: Algeria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Brunei Darussalam, China, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, India, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nicaragua, Oman, Russian Federation, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Zimbabwe

Abstaining: Bahamas, Bahrain, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Colombia, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Gabon, Indonesia, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritania, Nepal, Niger, Norway, Pakistan, Qatar, Saint Lucia, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Swaziland, Tajikistan, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, United Arab Emirates, Yemen

64/238. Situation of human rights in Myanmar

The General Assembly,

Guided by the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[598] and recalling the International Covenants on Human Rights[599] and other relevant human rights instruments,

Reaffirming that all Member States have an obligation to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms and the duty to fulfil the obligations they have undertaken under the various international instruments in this field,

Reaffirming also its previous resolutions on the situation of human rights in Myanmar, the most recent of which is resolution 63/245 of 24 December 2008, those of the Commission on Human Rights, and the resolutions of the Human Rights Council, the most recent of which are 10/27 of 27 March 2009[600] and 12/20 of 2 October 2009,[601]

Welcoming the statements made by the President of the Security Council on 11 October 2007 and 2 May 2008,[602] and the Security Council statements to the press of 22 May 2009 and 13 August 2009,[603]

Welcoming also the report of the Secretary-General on the situation of human rights in Myanmar,[604] as well as his visit to the country on 3 and 4 July 2009, and the visits of his Special Adviser on Myanmar from 31 January to 3 February and on 26 and 27 June 2009 respectively, while regretting that the Government of Myanmar did not seize the opportunity of those visits to work towards the fulfilment of the good offices mission,

Welcoming further the reports of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar[605] and his oral presentations, and the fact that a date has now been established for a follow-up visit by the Special Rapporteur,

Deeply concerned that the urgent calls contained in the above-mentioned resolutions, as well as the statements of other United Nations bodies concerning the situation of human rights in Myanmar, have not been met, and emphasizing that, without significant progress towards meeting these calls of the international community, the situation of human rights in Myanmar will continue to deteriorate,

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[596] A/64/120.

[597] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

[598] Resolution 217 A (III).

[599] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[600] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/64/53), chap. II, sect. A.

[601] See A/HRC/12/50, part one, chap. I.

[602] S/PRST/2007/37 and S/PRST/2008/13; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1 August 2007–31 July 2008.*

[603] SC/9662 and SC/9731.

[604] A/64/334.

[605] A/64/318 and A/HRC/10/19.

Deeply concerned also at restrictions to effective and genuine participation of the representatives of the National League for Democracy and other political parties and other relevant stakeholders, including some ethnic groups, in a genuine process of dialogue, national reconciliation and transition to democracy,

Calling upon the Government of Myanmar to cooperate with the international community in order to achieve concrete progress with regard to human rights and fundamental freedoms, and political processes, and to take immediate steps to ensure a free and fair electoral process which is transparent and inclusive, leading to a genuine democratic transition through concrete measures,

1. *Strongly condemns* the ongoing systematic violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms of the people of Myanmar;

2. *Expresses grave concern* at the recent trial, conviction and sentencing of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, resulting in her return to house arrest, and calls for her immediate and unconditional release;

3. *Urges* the Government of Myanmar to release all prisoners of conscience, currently estimated at more than 2,000, without delay, without conditions and with full restoration of their political rights, while noting the recent release of more than 100 prisoners of conscience, and strongly calls upon the Government of Myanmar to reveal the whereabouts of persons who are detained or have been subjected to enforced disappearance, and to desist from further politically motivated arrests;

4. *Reaffirms* the essential importance of a genuine process of dialogue and national reconciliation for a transition to democracy, notes with appreciation recent contact between the Government of Myanmar and Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, and calls upon the Government of Myanmar to take immediate measures to undertake a genuine dialogue with Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and all other concerned parties and ethnic groups, and to permit Daw Aung San Suu Kyi contact with the National League for Democracy and other domestic stakeholders;

5. *Strongly urges* the Government of Myanmar to ensure the necessary steps to be taken towards a free, fair, transparent and inclusive electoral process and calls upon the Government to take such steps without delay, including by enacting the required electoral laws and allowing the participation of all voters, all political parties and all other relevant stakeholders in the electoral process;

6. *Strongly calls upon* the Government of Myanmar to lift restrictions on the freedom of assembly, association, movement and freedom of expression, including for free and independent media, including through the openly available and accessible use of Internet and mobile telephone services, and ending the use of censorship;

7. *Expresses grave concern* at the continuing practice of arbitrary detentions, enforced disappearances, rape and other forms of sexual violence, torture and cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment, and strongly calls upon the Government of Myanmar to allow a full, transparent, effective, impartial and independent investigation into all reports of human rights violations, and to bring to justice those responsible in order to end impunity for such crimes;

8. *Calls upon* the Government of Myanmar to undertake a transparent, inclusive and comprehensive review of compliance of the Constitution and all national legislation with international human rights law, while fully engaging with democratic opposition and ethnic groups, while recalling that the procedures established for the drafting of the Constitution resulted in a de facto exclusion of the opposition from the process;

9. *Urges* the Government of Myanmar to ensure the independence and impartiality of the judiciary and to guarantee due process of law, and to fulfil earlier assurances made to the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar to begin a dialogue on judicial reform;

10. *Expresses concern* about the conditions in prisons and other detention facilities, and consistent reports of ill-treatment of prisoners of conscience, including torture, and about the moving of prisoners of conscience to isolated prisons far from their families where they cannot receive food and medicine;

11. *Expresses deep concern* about the resumption of armed conflict in some areas, and calls upon the Government of Myanmar to protect the civilian population in all parts of the country and for all concerned to respect existing ceasefire agreements;

12. *Strongly calls upon* the Government of Myanmar to take urgent measures to put an end to violations of international human rights and humanitarian law, including the targeting of persons belonging to particular ethnic groups, the targeting of civilians by military operations, and rape and other forms of sexual violence, and to end impunity for such acts;

13. *Also strongly calls upon* the Government of Myanmar to end the practice of systematic forced displacement of large numbers of persons within their country and other causes of refugee flows into neighbouring countries;

14. *Expresses its concern* about the continuing discrimination, human rights violations, violence, displacement and economic deprivation affecting numerous ethnic minorities, including, but not limited to, the Rohingya ethnic minority in Northern Rakhine State, and calls upon the Government of Myanmar to take immediate action to bring about an improvement in their respective situations, and to grant citizenship to the Rohingya ethnic minority;

15. *Urges* the Government of Myanmar to provide, in cooperation with the Office of the United Nations High

Commissioner for Human Rights, adequate human rights and international humanitarian law training for its armed forces, police and prison personnel, to ensure their strict compliance with international human rights law and international humanitarian law and to hold them accountable for any violations thereof;

16. *Welcomes* the dialogue between the Government of Myanmar and the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women on the occasion of the consideration of the Government's report in November 2008, as a sign of engagement in international cooperative efforts in the field of human rights, and encourages the Government to work to fulfil the recommendations of the Committee;

17. *Calls upon* the Government of Myanmar to consider acceding to remaining international human rights treaties, which would enable a dialogue with the other human rights treaty bodies;

18. *Also calls upon* the Government of Myanmar to allow human rights defenders to pursue their activities unhindered and to ensure their safety, security and freedom of movement in that pursuit;

19. *Strongly calls upon* the Government of Myanmar to put an immediate end to the continuing recruitment and use of child soldiers in violation of international law by all parties, to intensify measures to ensure the protection of children from armed conflict and to pursue its collaboration with the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, including by granting access to areas where children are recruited, for the purpose of implementing an action plan to halt this practice;

20. *Notes with appreciation* that some further steps have been taken with regard to the supplementary understanding between the International Labour Organization and the Government of Myanmar to eliminate the use of forced labour, but expresses grave concern at the continuing practice of forced labour, and urges the Government to continue to work with the International Labour Organization on the basis of the understanding, including through awareness-raising activities, with a view to extending action against forced labour as widely as possible throughout the country and to fully implementing the recommendations of the Commission of Inquiry of the International Labour Organization;

21. *Notes* the continued cooperation of the Government of Myanmar with the international community, including the United Nations, in delivering humanitarian assistance to the people affected by Cyclone Nargis, and in the light of ongoing humanitarian need encourages the Government of Myanmar to ensure that cooperation is maintained, and the continuation of the Tripartite Core Group mechanism;

22. *Calls upon* the Government of Myanmar to ensure timely, safe, full and unhindered access to all parts of Myanmar, including conflict and border areas, for the United Nations, international humanitarian organizations and their partners and to cooperate fully with those actors to ensure that humanitarian assistance is delivered to all persons in need throughout the country, including displaced persons;

23. *Also calls upon* the Government of Myanmar to resume its humanitarian dialogue with the International Committee of the Red Cross and to allow it to carry out its activities according to its mandate, in particular by granting access to persons detained and to areas of internal armed conflict;

24. *Welcomes* the progress reported on the work conducted by the Government of Myanmar and international humanitarian entities on HIV/AIDS;

25. *Reaffirms its full support* for the good offices of the Secretary-General pursued through his Special Adviser on Myanmar, consistent with the report of the Secretary-General on the situation of human rights in Myanmar,[604] and urges the Government of Myanmar to cooperate fully with the good offices mission in the fulfilment of its responsibilities as mandated by the General Assembly, including by facilitating the visits of the Special Adviser to the country and granting him unrestricted access to all relevant parties, including the highest level of leadership within the regime, human rights defenders, representatives of ethnic minorities, student leaders and other opposition groups, and to respond substantively and without delay to the five-point plan of the Secretary-General, including the establishment of a United Nations office in support of the mandate of the good offices;

26. *Welcomes* the role played by countries neighbouring Myanmar and members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations in support of the good offices mission of the Secretary-General, and in relief efforts following Cyclone Nargis, and encourages the continuation and intensification of efforts in this regard;

27. *Welcomes also* the continued contribution of the Group of Friends of the Secretary-General on Myanmar to facilitate the work of the good offices mission;

28. *Welcomes further* the favourable response to granting the Special Rapporteur's requests to visit the country, and urges the Government to cooperate fully with him in the exercise of his work as mandated by the Human Rights Council, and to implement the four core human rights elements recommended by the Special Rapporteur;

29. *Calls upon* the Government of Myanmar to engage in a dialogue with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights with a view to ensuring full respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms;

30. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

(*a*) To continue to provide his good offices and to pursue his discussions on the situation of human rights, the transition to democracy and the national reconciliation process with the Government and the people of Myanmar, including democracy and human rights groups and all relevant parties, and to offer technical assistance to the Government in this regard;

(*b*) To give all necessary assistance to enable the Special Adviser and the Special Rapporteur to discharge their mandates fully and effectively and in a coordinated manner;

(*c*) To report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session, as well as to the Human Rights Council, on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution;

31. *Decides* to continue the consideration of the question at its sixty-fifth session, on the basis of the report of the Secretary-General and the interim report of the Special Rapporteur.

VI. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Fifth Committee[*]

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[*] Unless otherwise stated, the draft resolutions recommended in the reports were submitted by the Chair or another officer of the Bureau of the Committee.

RESOLUTION 64/2

Adopted at the 16th plenary meeting, on 8 October 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/482, para. 6)

64/2. Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations: requests under Article 19 of the Charter

The General Assembly,

Having considered chapter V of the report of the Committee on Contributions on its sixty-ninth session,[1]

Reaffirming the obligation of Member States under Article 17 of the Charter of the United Nations to bear the expenses of the Organization as apportioned by the General Assembly,

1. *Reaffirms* its role in accordance with the provisions of Article 19 of the Charter of the United Nations and the advisory role of the Committee on Contributions in accordance with rule 160 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly;

2. *Also reaffirms* its resolution 54/237 C of 23 December 1999;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to bring to the attention of Member States the deadline specified in resolution 54/237 C, including through an early announcement in the *Journal of the United Nations* and through direct communication;

4. *Urges* all Member States requesting exemption under Article 19 of the Charter to submit as much information as possible in support of their requests and to consider submitting such information in advance of the deadline specified in resolution 54/237 C so as to enable the collation of any additional detailed information that may be necessary;

5. *Agrees* that the failure of the Central African Republic, the Comoros, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Sao Tome and Principe and Somalia to pay the full minimum amount necessary to avoid the application of Article 19 of the Charter was due to conditions beyond their control;

6. *Decides* that the Central African Republic, the Comoros, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Sao Tome and Principe and Somalia shall be permitted to vote in the General Assembly until the end of its sixty-fourth session.

RESOLUTION 64/107

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 10 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/553, para. 6)

64/107. Financing of support of the African Union Mission in Somalia

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of support of the African Union Mission in Somalia for the period from 1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010[2] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[3]

Recalling Security Council resolution 1863 (2009) of 16 January 2009, by which the Council expressed its intent to establish a United Nations peacekeeping operation in Somalia as a follow-on force to the African Union Mission in Somalia, subject to its further decision by 1 June 2009, and requested the Secretary-General, in order for the forces of the Mission to be incorporated into a United Nations peacekeeping operation, to provide a United Nations logistical support package to the Mission, including equipment and services,

Recalling also Security Council resolution 1872 (2009) of 26 May 2009, by which the Council requested the Secretary-General to continue to provide a logistical support package to the African Union Mission in Somalia until 31 January 2010,

Recalling further its resolution 63/275 B of 30 June 2009 on the financing of the activities arising from Security Council resolution 1863 (2009),

Reaffirming the general principles underlying the financing of United Nations peacekeeping operations, as stated in General Assembly resolutions 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, 3101 (XXVIII) of 11 December 1973 and 55/235 of 23 December 2000,

Noting with appreciation that voluntary contributions have been made to the United Nations Trust Fund established to support the African Union Mission in Somalia,

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to make the fullest possible use of facilities and equipment at the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy, in order to minimize the costs of procurement for the logistical support package;

2. *Acknowledges with appreciation* that the use of the logistics hub at Entebbe, Uganda, has been cost-effective and

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[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 11* (A/64/11).

[2] A/64/465.

[3] A/64/509.

has resulted in savings for the United Nations, and welcomes the expansion of the logistics hub to provide logistical support to peacekeeping operations in the region and to contribute further to their enhanced efficiency and responsiveness, taking into account the ongoing efforts in this regard;

3. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[3] subject to the provisions of the present resolution, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure their full implementation;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take appropriate measures to ensure effectiveness, efficiency and transparency with regard to the use of United Nations resources, bearing in mind the specific nature of the support package;

5. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to expedite the construction of facilities as set out in paragraph 124 of his report;[2]

Expenditure for the period from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009

6. *Takes note* of the expenditure report for the period from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009;[4]

7. *Decides* to appropriate to the Special Account for the support provided to the African Union Mission in Somalia the amount of 75,641,900 United States dollars for the period from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009 previously authorized under the terms of General Assembly resolution 63/275 A of 7 April 2009;

Estimates for the period from 1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010

8. *Also decides* to appropriate to the Special Account for the support provided to the African Union Mission in Somalia the amount of 213,580,000 dollars for the period from 1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010, inclusive of the amount of 138,802,500 dollars previously authorized under the terms of General Assembly resolution 63/275 B, and in addition to the amount of 6,102,400 dollars previously appropriated under the terms of resolution 63/275 B;

Financing of the appropriation for the period from 1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010

9. *Further decides*, taking into account the amount of 138,802,500 dollars previously apportioned under the terms of resolution 63/275 B, to apportion among Member States the additional amount of 12,462,917 dollars for the period from 1 to 31 January 2010, in accordance with the levels updated in General Assembly resolution 61/243 of 22 December 2006, and taking into account the scale of assessments for 2010;[5]

10. *Decides* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 9 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of 168,483 dollars, representing the additional staff assessment income for the period from 1 to 31 January 2010;

11. *Also decides* to apportion among Member States the amount of 62,314,583 dollars for the period 1 February to 30 June 2010 at a monthly rate of 12,462,917 dollars, taking into account the scale of assessments for 2010,[5] subject to a decision of the Security Council to extend the mandate;

12. *Further decides* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X), there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 11 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of 842,417 dollars;

13. *Decides* that, for Member States that have fulfilled their financial obligations to the entity, there shall be set off against their apportionment, as provided for in paragraph 9 above, their respective share of the unencumbered balance and other income in the total amount of 3,721,100 dollars in respect of the financial period ended 30 June 2009, in accordance with the levels updated in General Assembly resolution 61/243 and taking into account the scale of assessments for 2009, as set out in its resolution 61/237 of 22 December 2006;

14. *Also decides* that, for Member States that have not fulfilled their financial obligations to the entity, there shall be set off against their outstanding obligations their respective share of the unencumbered balance and other income in the total amount of 3,721,100 dollars in respect of the financial period ended 30 June 2009, in accordance with the scheme set out in paragraph 13 above;

15. *Further decides* that the increase of 258,000 dollars in the estimated staff assessment income in respect of the financial period ended 30 June 2009 shall be added to the credits from the amount of 3,721,100 dollars referred to in paragraphs 13 and 14 above;

16. *Invites* voluntary contributions to the United Nations Trust Fund established to support the African Union Mission in Somalia;

17. *Decides* to keep under review during its sixty-fourth session the item entitled "Financing of the activities arising from Security Council resolution 1863 (2009)".

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[4] A/64/465, sect. IV.

[5] See resolution 64/248.

RESOLUTION 64/227

Adopted at the 67th plenary meeting, on 22 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/547, para. 7)

64/227. Financial reports and audited financial statements, and reports of the Board of Auditors

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 52/212 B of 31 March 1998, 57/278 A of 20 December 2002, 60/234 A and B of 23 December 2005 and 30 June 2006, 62/223 A and B of 22 December 2007 and 20 June 2008, and 63/246 A and B of 24 December 2008 and 30 June 2009,

Having considered the financial report and audited financial statements and the report of the Board of Auditors on the voluntary funds administered by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees for the year ended 31 December 2008,[6] the note by the Secretary-General transmitting to the General Assembly the letter dated 10 July 2009 from the Chairman of the Board of Auditors transmitting the report of the Board on the implementation of its recommendations relating to the biennium 2006–2007,[7] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[8]

1. *Accepts* the financial report and audited financial statements and the report and audit opinion of the Board of Auditors on the voluntary funds administered by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees for the year ended 31 December 2008;[6]

2. *Endorses* the recommendations of the Board of Auditors contained in its report on the voluntary funds administered by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees for the year ended 31 December 2008;[9]

3. *Notes* the concerns as contained in the qualified audit opinion of the Board of Auditors on the financial statements of the voluntary funds administered by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees for the year ended 31 December 2008,[10] after its modified opinion on the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2007,[11] notes also the measures taken by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to address the seriousness of its financial problems, and encourages the High Commissioner to implement all the recommendations of the Board and to report to the relevant governing bodies on progress made in this regard;

4. *Commends* the Board of Auditors for the quality of its report and the streamlined format thereof;

5. *Takes note* of the note by the Secretary-General transmitting to the General Assembly the letter dated 10 July 2009 from the Chairman of the Board of Auditors transmitting the report of the Board on the implementation of its recommendations relating to the biennium 2006–2007;[7]

6. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[8] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

7. *Commends* the Board of Auditors for its identification of common reasons for the lack of full implementation of the recommendations, as well as good practices in relation to the implementation and follow-up of its reports;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the executive heads of the funds and programmes of the United Nations to ensure full implementation of all the recommendations of the Board of Auditors and the related recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions in a prompt and timely manner and to continue to hold programme managers accountable for the non-implementation of recommendations;

9. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to provide in his reports on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors on the accounts of the United Nations as well as on the financial statements of its funds and programmes a full explanation for the delays in the implementation of the recommendations of the Board, in particular those not yet fully implemented that are two or more years old;

10. *Also reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to indicate in future reports an expected time frame for the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors, as well as the priorities, benchmarks and deadlines, and measures to hold office holders accountable;

11. *Takes note* of paragraph 16 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions.

RESOLUTION 64/228

Adopted at the 67th plenary meeting, on 22 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/548, para. 6)

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[6] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 5E* (A/64/5/Add.5).

[7] A/64/98.

[8] A/64/469.

[9] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 5E* (A/64/5/Add.5), chap. II.

[10] Ibid., chap. III.

[11] Ibid., *Sixty-third Session, Supplement No. 5E* (A/63/5/Add.5), chap. III.

64/228. Capital master plan

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 54/249 of 23 December 1999, 55/238 of 23 December 2000, 56/234 and 56/236 of 24 December 2001 and 56/286 of 27 June 2002, section II of its resolution 57/292 of 20 December 2002, its resolution 59/295 of 22 June 2005, section II of its resolution 60/248 of 23 December 2005, its resolutions 60/256 of 8 May 2006, 60/282 of 30 June 2006, 61/251 of 22 December 2006 and 62/87 of 10 December 2007, section II.B of its resolution 63/248 of 24 December 2008 and its resolution 63/270 of 7 April 2009, and its decision 58/566 of 8 April 2004,

Recognizing the importance of ensuring that persons with disabilities have access to the physical environment on an equal basis with others,

Having considered the seventh annual progress report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the capital master plan,[12] the report of the Secretary-General on the proposal for risk mitigation measures to protect data and the information and communications systems of the Secretariat during the construction work of the capital master plan,[13] the report of the Secretary-General on proposals for financing the associated costs required for the year 2010 from within the approved budget for the capital master plan,[14] the report of the Board of Auditors on the capital master plan for the year ended 31 December 2008,[15] the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors contained in its report on the capital master plan for the year ended 31 December 2008,[16] section IV.A of the annual report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services for the period from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009[17] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[18]

1. *Reiterates its serious concern* at the hazards, risks and deficiencies of the United Nations Headquarters building in its current condition, which endanger the safety, health and well-being of staff, delegations, visitors and tourists;

2. *Reaffirms* that the General Assembly has the sole prerogative of deciding on any changes to the capital master plan project, budget and implementation strategy, as approved in its resolutions;

3. *Stresses* the special role of the host country Government with regard to support for United Nations Headquarters, in New York;

4. *Notes* the benefits, including economic ones, accruing to host countries from the presence of the United Nations, and the costs incurred;

5. *Recalls* the current practices of Governments of host countries with regard to support for United Nations headquarters and United Nations bodies located in their territories, and takes note of paragraph 46 of the seventh annual progress report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the capital master plan;[12]

6. *Takes note* of the seventh annual progress report of the Secretary-General, the report of the Secretary-General on the proposal for risk mitigation measures to protect data and the information and communications systems of the Secretariat during the construction work of the capital master plan,[13] the report of the Secretary-General on proposals for financing the associated costs required for the year 2010 from within the approved budget for the capital master plan,[14] the report of the Board of Auditors on the capital master plan for the year ended 31 December 2008,[15] the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors contained in its report on the capital master plan[16] and section IV.A of the annual report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services for the period from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009;[17]

7. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[18] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

8. *Accepts* the report of the Board of Auditors on the capital master plan for the year ended 31 December 2008;

9. *Approves* the recommendations of the Board of Auditors contained in its report;

10. *Notes with concern* the findings of the Board of Auditors as contained in its report, emphasizes the importance of the full implementation of the recommendations of the Board, and requests the Secretary-General to provide, in his eighth annual progress report, the steps taken and the progress achieved towards the full implementation of those recommendations;

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[12] A/64/346.

[13] A/64/346/Add.1.

[14] A/64/346/Add.2.

[15] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 5* (A/64/5 (Vol. V)).

[16] A/64/368 and Corr.1.

[17] See A/64/326 (Part I) and Corr.1.

[18] A/64/7/Add.5. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 7A*.

I

Seventh annual progress report

Financial management

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure by all means that project costs are brought back within the approved budget;

2. *Reiterates its request* that the Secretary-General make every effort to avoid budget increases through sound project management practices and to ensure that the capital master plan is completed within the budget as approved in its resolution 61/251;

3. *Expresses concern* about the merging of the provision for contingencies with that for forward pricing escalation, contrary to the outline of the budget as presented in the fifth annual progress report of the Secretary-General,[19] and approved in its resolution 61/251;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to distinguish between the provision for contingencies and that for forward pricing escalation as was done in the previous presentation of the cost estimate for the project;

Value engineering

5. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to pursue the value engineering exercise so as to maximize savings and the cost-effective use of resources to complete the project within or below its approved budget, while ensuring, inter alia, that the quality, functionality and scope of the project are not compromised, that materials are used as originally intended and that the integrity of the architectural design of the complex is preserved;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include in his eighth annual progress report detailed information on the following:

(*a*) Further clarification of the definition of value engineering;

(*b*) Detailed description of the value engineering activities, as well as the related costs and fees;

(*c*) The advantages that could potentially be realized as a result of the prevailing market conditions;

(*d*) A cost-benefit analysis of any additional sustainability options;

(*e*) Breakdown of the estimated cost savings to be realized through each value engineering initiative;

7. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue finding efficiency gains and cost reductions throughout the implementation of the capital master plan;

8. *Emphasizes* that the value engineering exercise shall not undermine the quality, durability and sustainability of the materials used, the original design of Headquarters or the commitment of the project to the highest standards for the safety, health and well-being of staff and delegations, in particular with regard to the handling of asbestos;

Schedule

9. *Expresses concern* that the completion date for the capital master plan has slipped from mid-2013 to late 2013, as a consequence of the delay in the construction of the temporary North Lawn building, and takes note, in this regard, of the accelerated schedule developed by the Secretary-General, which allows for the completion of the capital master plan on time;

10. *Notes with concern* the delay in relocating Secretariat staff to office swing space, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that the relocation of staff is undertaken in accordance with the relevant schedules to avoid any further delay;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide more comprehensive and specific information in future progress reports with respect to project delays and accountability for them, including the range of their cost implications and other potential consequences for the execution of the project, as well as actions to be taken to effectively manage and mitigate the delays or cost risk;

12. *Expresses its regret* that security concerns and space requirements were not duly considered at an earlier stage of the capital master plan and that the decision to maintain the Security Council within the main complex of buildings had not been part of the initial planning and has thus resulted in delays, significant changes in project design and additional costs;

Procurement

13. *Reaffirms* paragraphs 12 to 21 of section I of its resolution 63/270, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to report on their implementation in his annual progress reports on the capital master plan;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to fully address in a satisfactory manner the concerns raised by the Board of Auditors and the Headquarters Committee on Contracts regarding procurement and contract management, and further requests the Secretary-General to consider ways and means to increase significantly the level of internal control over amendments to contracts relating to the capital master plan;

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[19] A/62/364 and Corr.1.

15. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report in his eighth annual progress report on the steps taken to ensure that all previous and future amendments to contracts relating to procurement for the capital master plan are in line with the United Nations Procurement Manual, and on the efforts undertaken to involve the Headquarters Committee on Contracts in the adjudication process prior to the signing or amendment of contracts relating to the project that are within the scope of the authority of that Committee in a manner which will not impede the expeditious progress of the project;

16. *Reiterates* that contracts relating to procurement for the capital master plan should continue to stipulate that the United Nations will not be responsible for delays, damage or loss on the part of the contractor;

17. *Expresses concern* at the risk to internal controls posed by the absence of a review of contractual amendments;

18. *Notes* that some measures taken to avoid delays in the capital master plan procurement process, in particular the ex post facto review of contracts, risk having a negative impact in terms of internal controls;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the procurement process is in full compliance with the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations;[20]

20. *Decides* to keep the issue of oversight of contractual amendments under review;

21. *Notes with concern* that the seventh annual progress report of the Secretary-General did not contain adequate information on concrete steps taken to promote procurement opportunities for contractors and vendors from developing countries and countries with economies in transition relating to the capital master plan, reiterates its request to the Secretary-General to continue exploring ways to increase procurement opportunities for vendors from developing countries and countries with economies in transition, and reaffirms in this context the relevant provisions of its resolutions 54/14 of 29 October 1999, 55/247 of 12 April 2001, 57/279 of 20 December 2002, 59/288 of 13 April 2005, 60/1 of 16 September 2005, 61/246 of 22 December 2006 and 62/269 of 20 June 2008;

22. *Requests* the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, in accordance with regulations 7.6 and 7.7 of the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations, to request the Board of Auditors to include in its next report on the capital master plan information on the factors that restrict the diversification of the origin of vendors and progress achieved in increasing the procurement opportunities for vendors from developing countries and countries with economies in transition relating to the capital master plan;

23. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to ensure that the construction manager, in consultation with the Procurement Division of the Department of Management of the Secretariat, prepares and implements an action plan to promote procurement opportunities for contractors and vendors from developing countries and countries with economies in transition, and to include detailed information on the action plan and its implementation in his forthcoming annual progress reports;

Health and safety

24. *Reaffirms its commitment* to the safety, security, health and well-being of staff, delegations, visitors and tourists at the United Nations, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that concrete safeguards for the achievement of those objectives are in place and are part of the standard operating procedures throughout the implementation of the capital master plan;

25. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to ensure, in particular, strict compliance with the highest applicable standards for the handling of asbestos, and to continue to report to the General Assembly on measures taken in this regard in the context of the forthcoming annual reports and the regular briefings on the implementation of the capital master plan;

26. *Reaffirms* its resolution 63/8 of 3 November 2008, and requests the Secretary-General, in this regard, to designate sheltered smoking areas in order to make the renovated United Nations Headquarters premises smoke-free;

Donations

27. *Also reaffirms* the relevant provisions of its resolutions, in particular resolution 63/270, relating to donations for the capital master plan, and reiterates that the donation policy should not be restrictive and that it should be in full conformity with the international and intergovernmental character of the Organization as well as with the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations and without prejudice to the scope, specifications and design of the project;

28. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to accept in-kind donations of Member States in the implementation of the capital master plan, in full conformity with the international and intergovernmental character of the Organization as well as with the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations and without prejudice to the scope, specifications and design of the project;

29. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that works of art, masterpieces and other gifts are handled

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[20] ST/SGB/2003/7.

appropriately during all the stages of the capital master plan, and further requests him to cooperate with those Member States that wish to take care of their gifts of works of art, masterpieces and other items during the renovation period;

Parking

30. *Recalls* paragraphs 30 to 33 of section I of its resolution 63/270, expresses concern about the issue of the availability of parking spaces to the Member States in the garage of the United Nations complex, and the limitations imposed on Member States in this regard, including those related to night-time parking, reiterates its request that the total number of parking spaces available to the Member States before the implementation of the capital master plan be retained upon its completion and that every effort be made to maintain that number during the implementation of the capital master plan, and looks forward, in this context, to information on the review of the options in the forthcoming annual progress report;

Accessibility

31. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue providing specific information, in his next annual report, about the measures taken to eliminate physical, communication or technical barriers to persons with disabilities at United Nations Headquarters in the framework of the capital master plan, in particular regarding improvement in the accessibility of interpretation booths;

32. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that measures to be taken in the context of the capital master plan with a view to applying host city building, fire and safety codes do not violate the provisions of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,[21] especially those relating to accessibility, and also reiterates its request to the Secretary-General to report on this subject in future annual progress reports;

Oversight

33. *Reaffirms* paragraphs 37 and 38 of section I of its resolution 63/270, stresses the importance of ensuring effective oversight and audit coverage of the implementation of the capital master plan, and reiterates its request to the Secretary-General to develop adequate and effective tools to permanently monitor essential elements of progress made in the context of the implementation of the capital master plan, including a summary scoreboard to describe the development of the project at any given time, and to include detailed information on such tools in forthcoming annual progress reports;

34. *Requests* the Board of Auditors and all other relevant oversight bodies to continue to report to the General Assembly annually on the capital master plan;

Advisory board

35. *Takes note* of paragraph 39 of the seventh annual progress report of the Secretary-General, and emphasizes that an independent, impartial advisory board for the capital master plan reflecting a wide geographical representation should be established, in accordance with General Assembly resolutions 57/292, 61/251, 62/87 and 63/270, no later than 31 December 2009;

Eighth annual progress report

36. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to report on the status of the project, the schedule, the projected completion cost, the status of contributions, the working capital reserve, the status of the advisory board and the letter of credit in his eighth annual progress report, as well as to include therein the information requested in the present resolution;

II

Risk mitigation measures to protect data and the information and communications systems of the Secretariat

1. *Recalls* its resolution 63/269 of 7 April 2009, and notes with concern that the Secretary-General did not move forward with arrangements with the International Computing Centre to lease services for the transfer of the secondary data centre, and urges the Secretary-General to continue to closely monitor the situation to ensure that the activities related to the migration and running of the secondary data centre are completed in accordance with the time frame of the capital master plan;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to take advantage of the current economic climate in order to negotiate the most cost-effective lease and services possible and to report thereon to the General Assembly in the context of the eighth annual progress report;

3. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to absorb 11,644,530 United States dollars for the biennium 2010–2011 within the approved budget for the capital master plan, and decides that the Secretary-General shall include 1,254,190 dollars in the proposed requirements for the support account for peacekeeping operations for the period from 1 July 2010 to 30 June 2011 and 941,640 dollars in the proposed requirements for the support account for peacekeeping operations for the period from 1 July 2011 to 30 June 2012;

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[21] Resolution 61/106, annex I.

III

Associated costs

1. *Recalls* paragraph 79 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[18] and notes with concern that there is a lack of adequate planning and coordination of the associated costs for the various departments and offices involved with the capital master plan;

2. *Also recalls* paragraphs 80 and 81 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, encourages the Secretary-General to make every effort to ensure close coordination of activities across departments involved in the capital master plan to ensure that the project is completed on time and within the approved budget, and stresses the importance of designating a focal point in this regard;

3. *Notes with concern* that a number of the requirements set out in the report of the Secretary-General on proposals for financing the associated costs required for the year 2010 from within the approved budget for the capital master plan[14] did not relate directly to the capital master plan but rather to ongoing capital improvements, investment costs and long-term commitments;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to closely review the requirements for additional safety and security related to the capital master plan and to seek all possible means for maximizing efficiencies, including through intensified use of host country support capacity, so as to reduce the requirements for temporary Security Officer positions;

5. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to provide an assessment of the extent to which more intensive recourse to technological systems could reduce requirements for round-the-clock services of a temporary security contingent to provide security coverage during the construction phase of the capital master plan project, in order to allow a better understanding of the potential for achieving further efficiency gains;

6. *Decides* that the approved associated costs for the capital master plan will be financed from within the approved budget for the capital master plan unless otherwise specified by the General Assembly;

7. *Also decides* not to approve the overall level of associated costs at this time, bearing in mind opportunities for further cost reductions posed by the present economic circumstances as well as savings realized by the Secretary-General;

8. *Recalls* paragraph 83 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, and requests the Secretary-General to make every effort to absorb the associated costs for 2010 from within the overall budget approved for the capital master plan in a total amount of 42,069,695 dollars (net), broken down as follows:

(*a*) 645,600 dollars for the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management;

(*b*) 27,032,220 dollars for the Department of Public Information;

(*c*) 6,009,500 dollars for the Office of Central Support Services;

(*d*) 2,174,645 dollars for construction, alteration, improvement and major maintenance activities at Headquarters;

(*e*) 5,595,930 dollars for the Department of Safety and Security;

(*f*) 611,800 dollars for the Office of Information and Communications Technology;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly, for its decision at the main part of its sixty-fifth session, in the context of his eighth annual progress report, proposals for financing the associated costs required for the year 2011 from within the approved budget for the capital master plan.

RESOLUTION 64/229

Adopted at the 67th plenary meeting, on 22 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/549, para. 7)

64/229. Programme planning

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 37/234 of 21 December 1982, 38/227 A of 20 December 1983, 41/213 of 19 December 1986, 55/234 of 23 December 2000, 57/282 of 20 December 2002, 58/268 and 58/269 of 23 December 2003, 59/275 of 23 December 2004, 60/257 of 8 May 2006, 61/235 of 22 December 2006, 62/224 of 22 December 2007 and 63/247 of 24 December 2008,

Recalling also the terms of reference of the Committee for Programme and Coordination, as outlined in the annex to Economic and Social Council resolution 2008 (LX) of 14 May 1976,

Having considered the report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on the work of its forty-ninth session,[22]

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[22] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 16* (A/64/16).

1. *Reaffirms* the role of the Committee for Programme and Coordination as the main subsidiary organ of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council for planning, programming and coordination;

2. *Re-emphasizes* the role of the plenary and the Main Committees of the General Assembly in reviewing and taking action on the appropriate recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination relevant to their work, in accordance with regulation 4.10 of the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation;[23]

3. *Stresses* that setting the priorities of the United Nations is the prerogative of the Member States, as reflected in legislative mandates;

4. *Also stresses* the need for Member States to participate fully in the budget preparation process, from its early stages and throughout the process;

5. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on evaluation, on the annual overview report of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination for 2008/09, on United Nations system support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development and on improving the working methods and procedures of the Committee within the framework of its mandate.[24]

RESOLUTION 64/230

Adopted at the 67th plenary meeting, on 22 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/580, para. 6)

64/230. Pattern of conferences

The General Assembly,

Recalling its relevant resolutions, including resolutions 40/243 of 18 December 1985, 41/213 of 19 December 1986, 43/222 A to E of 21 December 1988, 51/211 A to E of 18 December 1996, 52/214 of 22 December 1997, 53/208 A to E of 18 December 1998, 54/248 of 23 December 1999, 55/222 of 23 December 2000, 56/242 of 24 December 2001, 56/254 D of 27 March 2002, 56/262 of 15 February 2002, 56/287 of 27 June 2002, 57/283 A of 20 December 2002, 57/283 B of 15 April 2003, 58/250 of 23 December 2003, 59/265 of 23 December 2004, 60/236 A of 23 December 2005, 60/236 B of 8 May 2006, 61/236 of 22 December 2006, 62/225 of 22 December 2007, 63/248 of 24 December 2008 and 63/284 of 30 June 2009,

Reaffirming its resolution 42/207 C of 11 December 1987, in which it requested the Secretary-General to ensure the equal treatment of the official languages of the United Nations,

Having considered the report of the Committee on Conferences for 2009,[25] the relevant reports of the Secretary-General[26] and the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the evaluation of the integrated global management initiative of the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management,[27]

Having also considered the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[28]

Reaffirming the provisions relating to conference services in its resolutions on multilingualism, in particular resolution 63/306 of 9 September 2009,

Bearing in mind its resolutions 60/251 of 15 March 2006 and 62/219 of 22 December 2007, Human Rights Council resolutions 5/1 of 18 June 2007[29] and 8/1 of 18 June 2008[30] and decision 9/103 of 24 September 2008[31] and the Council President's statements 8/1 of 9 April 2008[32] and 9/2 of 24 September 2008,[33]

Stressing that the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review of the Human Rights Council adopted reports on the review of thirty-two Member States at its fourth and fifth sessions,

Noting that thirteen of the reports adopted at the fourth session of the Working Group were not issued as documents of the United Nations in the six official languages prior to their consideration and adoption by the Council at its eleventh session and that the processing and issuance of two of the reports adopted by the Working Group at its fifth session remain delayed,

Recalling the importance of multilingualism in the work of the United Nations and the need to issue all of the reports of the Working Group in all official languages of the Organization,

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[23] ST/SGB/2000/8.

[24] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 16* (A/64/16), chaps. II.B, III and IV.

[25] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 32* (A/64/32).

[26] A/63/735 and A/64/136.

[27] A/64/166.

[28] A/64/484.

[29] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/62/53), chap. IV.A.

[30] Ibid., *Sixty-third Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/63/53), chap. III.A.

[31] Ibid., *Supplement No. 53 A* (A/63/53/Add.1), chap. II.

[32] Ibid., *Supplement No. 53* (A/63/53), chap. III.C.

[33] Ibid., *Supplement No. 53 A* (A/63/53/Add.1), chap. III.

I

Calendar of conferences and meetings

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Committee on Conferences for 2009;[25]

2. *Approves* the draft biennial calendar of conferences and meetings of the United Nations for 2010 and 2011, as submitted by the Committee on Conferences,[34] taking into account the observations of the Committee and subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to examine the feasibility and the implications of all options and proposals to adjust the calendar of conferences and meetings and other options aimed at addressing the problem of timely availability and consideration of documentation for the Fifth Committee and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session through the Committee on Conferences;

4. *Authorizes* the Committee on Conferences to make any adjustments to the calendar of conferences and meetings for 2010 and 2011 that may become necessary as a result of actions and decisions taken by the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session;

5. *Notes with satisfaction* that the Secretariat has taken into account the arrangements referred to in General Assembly resolutions 53/208 A, 54/248, 55/222, 56/242, 57/283 B, 58/250, 59/265, 60/236 A, 61/236, 62/225 and 63/248 concerning Orthodox Good Friday and the official holidays of Eid al-Fitr and Eid al-Adha, and requests all intergovernmental bodies to observe those decisions when planning their meetings;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that any modification to the calendar of conferences and meetings is implemented strictly in accordance with the mandate of the Committee on Conferences and other relevant resolutions of the General Assembly;

7. *Notes* that accurate, timely and consistent information provided to the Fifth Committee during its informal consultations facilitates the decision-making process in the Committee;

II

A. Utilization of conference-servicing resources

1. *Reaffirms* the practice that, in the use of conference rooms, priority must be given to the meetings of Member States;

2. *Notes* that the overall utilization factor at the four main duty stations in 2008 was 85 per cent as compared with 83 per cent in 2007 and 2006, which is above the established benchmark of 80 per cent;

3. *Welcomes* the steps taken by those bodies that have adjusted their programmes of work in order to achieve the optimum utilization of conference-servicing resources, and requests the Committee on Conferences to continue consultations with the secretariats and bureaux of bodies that underutilize their conference-servicing resources;

4. *Recognizes* that late starts and unplanned early endings seriously affect the bodies' utilization factor owing to the amount of time lost, and invites the secretariats and bureaux of bodies to pay adequate attention to avoiding late starts and unplanned early endings;

5. *Notes* that the percentage of meetings held by the bodies entitled to meet "as required" that were provided with interpretation services in New York in 2008 was 90 per cent, as compared with 88 per cent in 2007, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to report on the provision of conference services to these bodies through the Committee on Conferences;

6. *Recognizes* the importance of meetings of regional and other major groupings of Member States for the smooth functioning of the sessions of intergovernmental bodies, requests the Secretary-General to ensure that, as far as possible, all requests for conference services for the meetings of regional and other major groupings of Member States are met, and requests the Secretariat to inform the requesters as early as possible about the availability of conference services, including interpretation, as well as about any changes that might occur before the meeting;

7. *Regrets* that the percentage of meetings held by regional and other major groupings of Member States that were provided with interpretation services at the four main duty stations was 77 per cent in 2008 as compared to 84 per cent in 2007, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to employ innovative means to address the difficulties experienced by Member States owing to the lack of conference services for some meetings of regional and other major groupings of Member States and to report thereon to the General Assembly through the Committee on Conferences;

8. *Once again urges* intergovernmental bodies to spare no effort at the planning stage to take into account the meetings of regional and other major groupings of Member States, to make provision for such meetings in their programmes of work and to notify conference services, well in advance, of any cancellations so that unutilized conference-servicing resources may, to the extent possible, be reassigned to meetings of regional and other major groupings of Member States;

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[34] Ibid., *Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 32* (A/64/32), annex II.

9. *Notes with satisfaction* that, in accordance with several resolutions of the General Assembly, including resolution 63/248, section II.A, paragraph 9, in conformity with the headquarters rule, all meetings of Nairobi-based United Nations bodies were held in Nairobi in 2008, and requests the Secretary-General to report thereon to the Assembly at its sixty-fifth session through the Committee on Conferences;

10. *Notes with appreciation* ongoing promotional efforts and initiatives undertaken by the management of the conference centre of the Economic Commission for Africa, which led to a continued upward trend in utilization of the premises in 2008;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to explore means to increase the utilization of the conference centre of the Economic Commission for Africa, bearing in mind the headquarters minimum operating security standards, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session;

12. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General and Member States to adhere to the guidelines and procedures contained in the administrative instruction for the authorization of the use of United Nations premises for meetings, conferences, special events and exhibits;[35]

13. *Emphasizes* that such meetings, conferences, special events and exhibits must be consistent with the purposes and principles of the United Nations;

B. Impact of the capital master plan, strategy IV (phased approach), on meetings held at Headquarters during its implementation

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the implementation of the capital master plan, including the temporary relocation of conference-servicing staff to a swing space, will not compromise the quality of conference services provided to Member States in the six official languages and the equal treatment of the language services, which should be provided with equally favourable working conditions and resources, with a view to receiving the maximum quality of services;

2. *Requests* all meeting requesters and organizers to liaise closely with the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management of the Secretariat on all matters related to the scheduling of meetings to allow maximum predictability in coordinating activities at Headquarters during the construction period;

3. *Requests* the Committee on Conferences to keep the matter under constant review, and requests the Secretary-General to report regularly to the Committee on matters pertaining to the calendar of conferences and meetings of the United Nations during the construction period;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide adequate information technology support for conference services, within the existing resources of the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management, in order to ensure their seamless operation throughout the implementation of the capital master plan;

5. *Notes* that, for the duration of the implementation of the capital master plan, a part of the conference-servicing staff and information technology resources of the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management has been temporarily relocated to a swing space, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to provide adequate support, within the existing resources of the Department, to ensure continued maintenance of the information technology facilities of the Department, implementation of the global information technology initiative and delivery of quality conference services;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to consult Member States on initiatives that affect the utilization of conference services and conference facilities;

III

Integrated global management

1. *Notes* the progress achieved in the implementation of the global information technology project, aimed at integrating, across duty stations, information technology into meetings management and documentation-processing systems, and the global approach to harmonizing standards and information technology and sharing good practices and technological achievements among conference services at the four main duty stations;

2. *Also notes* the initiatives undertaken in the context of integrated global management aimed at streamlining procedures, achieving economies of scale and improving the quality of conference services, and in this regard stresses the importance of ensuring equal treatment of conference-servicing staff as well as the principle of equal grade for equal work at the four main duty stations;

3. *Emphasizes* that the major goals of the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management are to provide high-quality documents in a timely manner in all official languages in accordance with established regulations, as well as high-quality conference services to Member States at all duty stations, and to achieve those aims as efficiently and cost-effectively as possible, in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly;

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[35] ST/AI/416.

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that all language services are given equal treatment and are provided with equally favourable working conditions and resources, with a view to achieving the maximum quality of services, with full respect for the specificities of the six official languages and taking into account their respective workloads;

5. *Reiterates* the need for the Secretary-General to ensure the compatibility of technologies used in all duty stations and to ensure that they are user-friendly in all official languages;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to complete the task of uploading all important older United Nations documents onto the United Nations website in all six official languages on a priority basis, so that these archives are also available to Member States through that medium;

7. *Reiterates* that the satisfaction of Member States is a key performance indicator in conference management and conference services;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to ensure that measures taken by the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management to seek the evaluation by Member States of the quality of the conference services provided to them, as a key performance indicator of the Department, provide equal opportunities to Member States to present their evaluations in the six official languages of the United Nations and are in full compliance with relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly, through the Committee on Conferences, on progress made in this regard;

9. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue to explore best practices and techniques in client satisfaction evaluations and to report on a regular basis to the General Assembly on the results achieved;

10. *Welcomes* the efforts made by the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management to seek the evaluation by Member States of the quality of the conference services provided to them, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to explore innovative ways to systematically capture and analyse feedback from Member States and committee Chairs and secretaries on the quality of conference services and to report thereon to the General Assembly through the Committee on Conferences;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to keep the General Assembly apprised of progress made in integrated global management;

12. *Notes with concern* that the Secretary-General did not include in his report on the pattern of conferences[36] information about the financial savings achieved through implementation of the integrated global management projects as requested in section III, paragraph 4, of its resolution 63/248, and requests the Secretary-General to redouble his efforts to include this information in his next report on the pattern of conferences;

13. *Takes note* of the recommendations provided by the Office of Internal Oversight Services in its report,[27] and requests the Secretary-General to ensure their full implementation and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session through the Committee on Conferences;

IV

Documentation and publication-related matters

1. *Decides* that all the reports adopted by the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review of the Human Rights Council at its fourth and fifth sessions and the additional information submitted by the States under review before the adoption of the outcome by the Council shall be issued as documents in all official languages of the United Nations, and requests the Secretary-General to undertake the necessary measures to that effect;

2. *Also decides* that all reports adopted by the Working Group shall be issued as documents in all official languages of the United Nations in a timely manner before their consideration by the Council, in accordance with General Assembly resolutions 36/117 A of 10 December 1981, 51/211 A to E, 52/214, 53/208 A to E and 59/265, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure the support necessary to that effect;

3. *Emphasizes* the paramount importance of the equality of the six official languages of the United Nations;

4. *Reiterates* the importance of the timely issuance of documents for the Fifth Committee;

5. *Stresses* that matters related to conference management, including documentation, fall within the purview of the Fifth Committee;

6. *Reiterates with concern its request* to the Secretary-General to ensure that the rules concerning the simultaneous distribution of documents in all six official languages are strictly respected as regards both the distribution of printed copies and the posting of parliamentary documentation on the Official Document System and the

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[36] A/64/136.

United Nations website, in keeping with section III, paragraph 5, of its resolution 55/222;

7. *Reaffirms* that the Fifth Committee is the appropriate Main Committee of the General Assembly entrusted with responsibilities for administrative and budgetary matters;

8. *Also reaffirms* its decision in section III, paragraph 9, of its resolution 59/265 that the issuance of documents in all six official languages on planning, budgetary and administrative matters requiring urgent consideration by the General Assembly shall be accorded priority;

9. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to direct all departments of the Secretariat to include the following elements in their reports:

(*a*) Summary of the report;

(*b*) Consolidated conclusions, recommendations and other proposed actions;

(*c*) Relevant background information;

10. *Reiterates its request* that all documents submitted to legislative organs by the Secretariat and intergovernmental and expert bodies for consideration and action have conclusions and recommendations in bold print;

11. *Recognizes* the work done by the task force chaired by the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management in positively addressing the problem of issuance of documents for the Fifth Committee;

12. *Welcomes* the continued efforts of the task force to shepherd the submission of documents by the author departments of the Secretariat;

13. *Expresses deep concern* at the unprecedented high level of late submission of documentation, which, in turn, has a negative impact on the functioning of intergovernmental bodies, and urges author departments to fully adhere to deadlines in meeting the goal of 90 per cent submission compliance;

14. *Decides* to review, at its sixty-sixth session, the work of the task force and to consider, where necessary, additional measures to ensure compliance with submission deadlines by author departments if the goal of 90 per cent compliance is not met;

15. *Acknowledges* that a multipronged approach is required to find a solution to the perennial difficulties of the late issuance of documents for the Fifth Committee;

16. *Encourages* the Chairs of the Fifth Committee and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions to promote cooperation between the two bodies in the sphere of documentation;

V

Translation and interpretation-related matters

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to redouble his efforts to ensure the highest quality of interpretation and translation services in all six official languages;

2. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue to seek evaluation by Member States of the quality of the conference services provided to them, including through the language-specific informational meetings held twice a year, and to ensure that such measures provide equal opportunities to Member States to present their evaluations in the six official languages of the United Nations and that they are in full compliance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly;

3. *Reiterates its request* that the Secretary-General ensure that the terminology used in the translation and interpretation services reflects the latest linguistic norms and terminology of the official languages in order to ensure the highest quality;

4. *Reaffirms* section V, paragraph 3, of its resolution 61/236, section V, paragraph 3, of its resolution 62/225 and section V, paragraph 5, of its resolution 63/248, and reiterates its request that the Secretary-General, when recruiting temporary assistance in the language services, ensure that all language services are given equal treatment and are provided with equally favourable working conditions and resources, with a view to achieving maximum quality of their services, with full respect for the specificities of each of the six official languages and taking into account their respective workloads;

5. *Notes with appreciation* the measures taken by the Secretariat to fill current and future vacancies at the United Nations Office at Nairobi and the information contained in paragraphs 87 to 89 of the report of the Secretary-General on the pattern of conferences,[36] and requests the Secretary-General to consider further measures aimed at decreasing the vacancy rates in Nairobi and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session;

6. *Acknowledges* the measures undertaken by the Secretary-General, in accordance with its resolutions, to address the issue of the replacement of retiring staff in the language services, and requests the Secretary-General to maintain and intensify those efforts, including the strengthening of cooperation with institutions that train language specialists, in order to meet the need in the six official languages of the United Nations;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to hold competitive examinations for the recruitment of language staff sufficiently in advance in order to fill current and future vacancies in language services in a timely manner, and to inform the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session of efforts in this regard;

8. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue to improve the accuracy of translation of documents into the six official languages, giving particular significance to the quality of translation;

9. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to take the steps necessary to enhance translation quality in all six official languages, in particular for contractual translation, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide, at all duty stations, adequate staff at the appropriate level, with a view to ensuring appropriate quality control for external translation, with due consideration of the principle of equal grade for equal work;

11. *Takes note* of the information on the impact of freelance recruitment on the quality of interpretation at all duty stations contained in paragraphs 81 to 86 of the report of the Secretary-General,[36] and requests the Secretary-General to report on the issue to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session through the Committee on Conferences;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session on the experience, lessons learned and best practices of the main duty stations in performing quality control of contractual translations, including on requirements relating to the number and appropriate level of the staff needed to carry out this function.

RESOLUTION 64/231

Adopted at the 67th plenary meeting, on 22 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/581, para. 8)

64/231. United Nations common system: report of the International Civil Service Commission for 2009

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 44/198 of 21 December 1989, 51/216 of 18 December 1996, 52/216 of 22 December 1997, 53/209 of 18 December 1998, 55/223 of 23 December 2000, 56/244 of 24 December 2001, 57/285 of 20 December 2002, 58/251 of 23 December 2003, 59/268 of 23 December 2004, 60/248 of 23 December 2005, 61/239 of 22 December 2006, 62/227 of 22 December 2007 and 63/251 of 24 December 2008,

Having considered the report of the International Civil Service Commission for 2009,[37]

Reaffirming its commitment to a single, unified United Nations common system as the cornerstone for the regulation and coordination of the conditions of service of the common system,

Reaffirming the statute of the Commission[38] and the central role of the Commission and the General Assembly in the regulation and coordination of the conditions of service of the common system,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the work of the International Civil Service Commission;

2. *Takes note* of the report of the Commission for 2009;[37]

A. Conditions of service of staff in the Professional and higher categories

1. Evolution of the margin

Recalling section I.B of its resolution 51/216 and the standing mandate from the General Assembly, in which the Commission is requested to continue its review of the relationship between the net remuneration of United Nations staff in the Professional and higher categories in New York and that of the comparator civil service (the United States federal civil service) employees in comparable positions in Washington, D.C. (referred to as "the margin"),

1. *Notes* that the margin between net remuneration of the United Nations staff in grades P-1 to D-2 in New York and that of officials in comparable positions in the United States federal civil service in Washington, D.C., for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2009 is estimated at 113.8 and that the average margin level for the past five years (2005–2009) stands at 113.6;

2. *Reaffirms* that the range of 110 to 120 for the margin between the net remuneration of officials in the Professional and higher categories of the United Nations in New York and officials in comparable positions in the comparator civil service should continue to apply, on the understanding that the margin would be maintained at a level around the desirable midpoint of 115 over a period of time;

2. Base/floor salary scale

Recalling its resolution 44/198, by which it established a floor net salary level for staff in the Professional and higher categories by reference to the corresponding base net salary levels of officials in comparable positions serving at the base city of the comparator civil service (the United States federal civil service),

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[37] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 30* and corrigendum (A/64/30 and Corr.2).

[38] Resolution 3357 (XXIX), annex.

Approves, with effect from 1 January 2010, as recommended by the Commission in paragraph 66 of its report,[37] the revised base/floor scale of gross and net salaries for staff in the Professional and higher categories contained in annex IV to the report;

3. Gender balance and geographical distribution

1. *Notes with disappointment* the insufficient progress made with regard to the representation of women in the organizations of the United Nations common system, and in particular their significant underrepresentation at senior levels;

2. *Notes* the decisions of the Commission contained in paragraph 88 of its report;[37]

3. *Invites* the Commission to continue to monitor future progress in achieving gender balance, including the aspect of regional representation if it deems it appropriate, and to make recommendations on practical steps that should be taken to improve the representation of women in the organizations of the common system;

4. *Welcomes* the decision of the Commission to encourage the organizations of the common system to promote and implement innovative approaches, such as outreach initiatives, to attract, develop and retain the most talented men and women;

5. *Requests* the Commission to review measures taken by organizations participating in the common system concerning the implementation of paragraph 3 of Article 101 of the Charter of the United Nations and to report its findings, as appropriate;

6. *Encourages* the Commission to consider further issues relating to the retention of female staff;

B. Conditions of service applicable to both categories of staff

1. Separation payments

1. *Takes note* of the recommendation of the Commission to introduce end-of-service severance pay in the organizations of the common system for fixed-term staff involuntarily separating from the Organization upon the expiration of their contract after ten or more years of continuous service;

2. *Decides* to revert to the question of the proposed end-of-service severance pay at its sixty-fifth session;

3. *Takes note* of the recommendation of the Commission for governing bodies of the organizations of the common system to harmonize their termination indemnity schedule with that of the United Nations, and requests the Commission to review the application of the termination indemnity and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session;

4. *Reaffirms* that the repatriation grant should not be payable to staff living in their home country and working abroad or to staff with permanent resident status at the last duty station, and reiterates its call to the governing bodies of the organizations of the common system to align their provisions regarding repatriation grant eligibility with those applicable in the United Nations;

5. *Reiterates* that the death grant should not be payable to secondary dependants, and reiterates its call to the governing bodies of the organizations of the common system to align their provisions regarding the death grant with those applicable in the United Nations;

2. Mandatory age of separation

1. *Notes* paragraphs 17 and 20 of the report of the Commission,[37] and requests the Commission to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session on the results of the comprehensive analysis of the possibility of changing the mandatory age of separation, including the implications in the areas of human resources policies and pensions;

2. *Requests* the Commission to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session with advice and recommendations on succession planning within the organizations of the common system;

C. Other matters

1. Senior Management Network

1. *Notes* the decision of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination to discontinue work on the Senior Management Network;

2. *Requests* the Commission to monitor the adequacy and effectiveness of measures aimed at improving management capacity and performance within the common system and to report to the General Assembly on these matters, as appropriate;

2. General Service salary survey methodologies

Also requests the Commission, when reviewing the General Service salary survey methodologies under the Fleming principle, in accordance with the programme of work of the Commission for 2010–2011,[39] to give higher consideration to the local national civil service among the retained employers, taking into account that the United Nations is a civil service organization.

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[39] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 30* and corrigendum (A/64/30 and Corr.2), annex I.

RESOLUTION 64/232

Adopted at the 67th plenary meeting, on 22 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/551, para. 6)

64/232. Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on its activities

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 48/218 B of 29 July 1994, 54/244 of 23 December 1999, 59/272 of 23 December 2004, 60/259 of 8 May 2006, 61/275 of 29 June 2007, 63/265 of 24 December 2008, 63/276 of 7 April 2009 and 63/287 of 30 June 2009,

Having considered the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on its activities for the period from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009[40] and the related note by the Secretary-General,[41] as well as chapter III of the annual report of the Independent Audit Advisory Committee,[42]

1. *Reaffirms* its primary role in the consideration of and action taken on reports submitted to it;

2. *Also reaffirms* its oversight role and the role of the Fifth Committee in administrative and budgetary matters;

3. *Further reaffirms* the independence and the separate and distinct roles of the internal and external oversight mechanisms;

4. *Recalls* that the Office of Internal Oversight Services shall exercise operational independence under the authority of the Secretary-General relating to the performance of its internal oversight functions, in accordance with the relevant resolutions;

5. *Encourages* United Nations internal and external oversight bodies to enhance the level of their cooperation with one another, such as joint work planning sessions, without prejudice to the independence of each;

6. *Emphasizes* the importance to effective internal oversight of good cooperation at all levels between management and the Office of Internal Oversight Services;

7. *Notes with appreciation* the work of the Independent Audit Advisory Committee;

8. *Recalls* that in its resolution 61/275 it approved the terms of reference of the Independent Audit Advisory Committee;

9. *Takes note* of the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on its activities for the period from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009[40] and the related note by the Secretary-General;[41]

10. *Also takes note* of chapter III of the annual report of the Independent Audit Advisory Committee in respect of the Office of Internal Oversight Services;[42]

11. *Stresses* that all reports of the Office of Internal Oversight Services shall continue to be submitted in accordance with the format prescribed in section IV, paragraphs 7 and 8, of General Assembly resolution 63/248 of 24 December 2008;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to address recurring recommendations of the Office of Internal Oversight Services dealing with issues that are systemic in nature;

13. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to ensure the full implementation of the accepted recommendations of the Office of Internal Oversight Services in a prompt and timely manner and to provide detailed justifications in cases where recommendations of the Office are not accepted;

14. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that all relevant resolutions, including resolutions of a cross-cutting nature, are brought to the attention of relevant managers, and that the Office of Internal Oversight Services also takes those resolutions into account in the conduct of its activities;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that all relevant resolutions pertaining to the work of the Office of Internal Oversight Services are brought to the attention of the relevant managers;

16. *Expresses deep concern* at the recommendations of the Office of Internal Oversight Services referred to in paragraph 37 of its report,[43] and reiterates that the Office shall not propose to the General Assembly any change in the legislative decisions and mandates approved by intergovernmental legislative bodies;

17. *Urges* the Secretary-General to ensure that the Office of Internal Oversight Services conducts its activities in accordance with its mandate as contained in resolutions 48/218 B, 54/244 and 59/272 and in the present resolution;

18. *Reiterates its requests* to the Secretary-General to make every effort to fill vacancies in the Office of Internal Oversight Services as a matter of priority, in accordance with

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[40] A/64/326 (Part I) and Corr.1 and Add.1.

[41] A/64/326 (Part I)/Add.2.

[42] A/64/288.

[43] A/64/326 (Part I) and Corr.1.

the existing relevant provisions governing recruitment in the United Nations;

19. *Notes* that the five-year non-renewable term of the Under-Secretary-General for Internal Oversight Services will expire in July 2010, and in this regard urges the Secretary-General to ensure that timely arrangements are made to find a successor in full conformity with the provisions of paragraph 5 (*b*) of resolution 48/218 B.

RESOLUTION 64/233

Adopted at the 67th plenary meeting, on 22 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/582, para. 6)

64/233. Administration of justice at the United Nations

The General Assembly,

Recalling section XI of its resolution 55/258 of 14 June 2001 and its resolutions 57/307 of 15 April 2003, 59/266 of 23 December 2004, 59/283 of 13 April 2005, 61/261 of 4 April 2007, 62/228 of 22 December 2007 and 63/253 of 24 December 2008, and its decision 63/531 of 11 December 2008,

Reaffirming the goal of gender parity within the United Nations system, with due regard to the principle of geographical representation, in conformity with Article 101 of the Charter of the United Nations,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General on the outcome of the work of the Joint Appeals Board during 2007 and 2008 and between January and June 2009 and statistics on the disposition of cases and work of the Panel of Counsel[44] and on the activities of the Office of the United Nations Ombudsman and Mediation Services,[45] the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions[46] and the letter dated 20 October 2009 from the President of the General Assembly to the Chairman of the Fifth Committee,[47]

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General on the outcome of the work of the Joint Appeals Board during 2007 and 2008 and between January and June 2009 and statistics on the disposition of cases and work of the Panel of Counsel[44] and on the activities of the Office of the United Nations Ombudsman and Mediation Services;[45]

2. *Reaffirms* its resolutions 61/261, 62/228 and 63/253 on the establishment of the new system of administration of justice;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* to staff members who have participated in the system of administration of justice, including the joint disciplinary committees, the joint appeals boards and the panels of counsel;

4. *Also expresses its appreciation* to the members and staff of the United Nations Administrative Tribunal for their work;

5. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[46] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

6. *Takes note* of paragraph 12 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[46]

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session on the status of the judges of the United Nations Appeals Tribunal and their entitlements, including travel and daily subsistence allowance;

8. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to include, inter alia, the following information in his report to be submitted to General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session pursuant to paragraph 59 of resolution 63/253:

(*a*) The exact terms of reference of the Office of the United Nations Ombudsman and Mediation Services concerning access by non-staff personnel;

(*b*) An update concerning the exact number of persons other than staff personnel working for the United Nations and the funds and programmes under different types of contracts, including individual contractors, consultants, personnel under service contracts, personnel under special service agreements and daily paid workers;

(*c*) A description of the new procedure for management evaluation, including the types of work-related administrative decisions for which it is required, and of the procedure normally followed in other cases where non-staff personnel submit a complaint concerning a violation of contract that does not qualify for management evaluation;

(*d*) A compilation of the standard contracts and rules, including dispute settlement clauses, that govern the relations between the Organization and the various categories of non-staff personnel;

(*e*) An analysis of monetary compensation awarded, as well as indirect costs associated with an appeal, such as staff time, including identification of those aspects of staff administration which give rise to large numbers of appeals, as well as comparative data from the old and the new system;

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[44] A/64/292.

[45] A/64/314.

[46] A/64/508.

[47] A/C.5/64/3.

(*f*) Measures in place to provide for accountability of officials for causing financial loss to the Organization under the new system for administration of justice, including recovery action, as well as actions taken to enforce such accountability;

9. *Further requests* the Secretary-General, with regard to remedies available to the different categories of non-staff personnel, to analyse and compare the respective advantages and disadvantages, including the financial implications, of the options set out below, bearing in mind the status quo concerning dispute settlement mechanisms for non-staff personnel, including the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law arbitration clause, in his report to be submitted to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session pursuant to paragraph 59 of resolution 63/253:

(*a*) Establishment of an expedited special arbitration procedure, conducted under the auspices of local, national or regional arbitration associations, for claims under 25,000 United States dollars submitted by personal service contractors;

(*b*) Establishment of an internal standing body that would make binding decisions on disputes submitted by non-staff personnel, not subject to appeal and using streamlined procedures, as proposed by the Secretary-General in paragraphs 51 to 56 of his report on the administration of justice;[48]

(*c*) Establishment of a simplified procedure for non-staff personnel before the United Nations Dispute Tribunal, which would make binding decisions not subject to appeal and using streamlined procedures;

(*d*) Granting of access to the United Nations Dispute Tribunal and the United Nations Appeals Tribunal, under their current rules of procedure, to non-staff personnel;

10. *Reaffirms* that the informal resolution of conflict is a crucial element of the system of administration of justice, and emphasizes that all possible use should be made of the informal system in order to avoid unnecessary litigation;

11. *Takes note* of section IV, on systemic issues, of the report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Office of the United Nations Ombudsman and Mediation Services,[45] and emphasizes that the role of the Ombudsman is to report on broad systemic issues that he or she identifies, as well as issues that are brought to his or her attention, in order to promote greater harmony in the workplace;

12. *Emphasizes* the importance of interaction between the Office of the United Nations Ombudsman and Mediation Services and other parts of the Secretariat, such as the Office of Human Resources Management, to ensure that systemic issues are adequately addressed, and requests the Secretary-General to report regularly to the General Assembly on actions taken to address the findings of the Ombudsman on systemic issues;

13. *Welcomes* the submission of the first joint report for the entities covered by the integrated Office of the Ombudsman,[45] and requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly such a report at its sixty-fifth session and thereafter on a regular basis;

14. *Recalls* paragraphs 48 and 49 of resolution 63/253, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that the best possible use is made of the three ad litem judges in order to reduce the existing backlog of cases before the United Nations Dispute Tribunal;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to create a comprehensive website and an electronic filing system for the new system of administration of justice as soon as possible, taking into account the role of the Office of Information and Communications Technology, and also requests the Secretary-General to include information on the progress made in that regard in his report to be submitted pursuant to paragraph 59 of resolution 63/253;

16. *Invites* the Sixth Committee to consider the legal aspects of the reports to be submitted by the Secretary-General, without prejudice to the role of the Fifth Committee as the Main Committee entrusted with responsibilities for administrative and budgetary matters.

RESOLUTION 64/234

Adopted at the 67th plenary meeting, on 22 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/552, para. 6)

64/234. Financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia

The General Assembly,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia[49] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[50]

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[48] A/62/782.

[49] A/64/463 and A/64/464.

[50] A/64/529.

Recalling Security Council resolution 854 (1993) of 6 August 1993, by which the Council approved the deployment of an advance team of up to ten United Nations military observers for a period of three months and the incorporation of the advance team into a United Nations observer mission if such a mission was formally established by the Council,

Recalling also Security Council resolution 858 (1993) of 24 August 1993, by which the Council established the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia, and the subsequent resolutions by which the Council extended the mandate of the Observer Mission, the last of which was resolution 1866 (2009) of 13 February 2009,

Recalling further its decision 48/475 A of 23 December 1993 on the financing of the Observer Mission and its subsequent resolutions and decisions thereon, the latest of which was resolution 63/293 of 30 June 2009,

Reaffirming the general principles underlying the financing of United Nations peacekeeping operations, as stated in General Assembly resolutions 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, 3101 (XXVIII) of 11 December 1973 and 55/235 of 23 December 2000,

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the Observer Mission with the financial resources necessary to enable it to complete its administrative liquidation,

1. *Takes note* of the status of contributions to the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia as at 30 September 2009, including the contributions outstanding in the amount of 8.9 million United States dollars, representing some 2 per cent of the total assessed contributions, notes with concern that only thirty-seven Member States have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States, in particular those in arrears, to ensure payment of their outstanding assessed contributions;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Member States which have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States to make every possible effort to ensure payment of their assessed contributions to the Observer Mission in full;

3. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[50] and requests the Secretary-General to ensure their full implementation;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all action necessary to ensure that the administrative liquidation of the Observer Mission is administered with a maximum of efficiency and economy;

Financial performance report for the period from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009

5. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the financial performance of the Observer Mission for the period from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009;[51]

6. *Decides* to reduce the appropriation of 36,084,000 dollars approved for the Mission for the period from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009 under the terms of its resolution 62/260 of 20 June 2008 by the amount of 501,985 dollars, to 35,582,015 dollars;

7. *Also decides* to apportion among Member States the amount of 934,857 dollars, representing the difference between the amount of 33,047,358 dollars already apportioned by the General Assembly for the maintenance of the Mission and the actual expenditure of 33,982,215 dollars for the period from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009;

8. *Further decides* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 7 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 200,345 dollars, representing the difference between the amount of 2,313,129 dollars already assessed for the maintenance of the Mission and the actual expenditure of 2,513,474 dollars for the period from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009;

9. *Decides* to apportion among Member States the total amount of 66,658 dollars, comprising 58,108 dollars for the support account for peacekeeping operations and 8,550 dollars for the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy, remaining to be apportioned by the General Assembly for the period from 16 to 30 June 2009, taking into account the amount of 1,599,800 dollars already appropriated for the period from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009 under the terms of General Assembly resolution 62/260, comprising 1,394,600 dollars for the support account for peacekeeping operations and 205,200 dollars for the United Nations Logistics Base;

10. *Also decides* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X), there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 9 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of 6,258 dollars, comprising the prorated share of 5,583 dollars of the estimated staff assessment income approved for the support account and the prorated share of 675 dollars of the estimated staff

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[51] A/64/463.

assessment income approved for the United Nations Logistics Base;

Revised budget estimates for the period from 1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010

11. *Further decides* to reduce the appropriation of 15 million dollars approved by the General Assembly under the terms of resolution 63/293 for the administrative liquidation of the Mission for the period from 1 July to 31 December 2009 to the amount of 10,946,000 dollars for the period from 1 July to 31 October 2009;

Financing of the appropriation

12. *Decides* to apportion among Member States the amount of 946,000 dollars for the period from 1 July to 31 October 2009, taking into account the amount of 10 million dollars already apportioned by the General Assembly under the terms of resolution 63/293, in accordance with the levels updated in Assembly resolution 61/243 of 22 December 2006, and taking into account the scale of assessments for 2009, as set out in Assembly resolution 61/237 of 22 December 2006;

13. *Also decides* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X), there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 12 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of 933,500 dollars of the estimated staff assessment income approved for the Observer Mission;

14. *Further decides* that, for Member States that have fulfilled their financial obligations to the Observer Mission, there shall be set off against their apportionment, as provided for in paragraph 12 above, their respective share of other income in the total amount of 821,900 dollars in respect of the financial period ended 30 June 2009, in accordance with the levels updated in resolution 61/243, and taking into account the scale of assessments for 2009, as set out in resolution 61/237;

15. *Decides* that, for Member States that have not fulfilled their financial obligations to the Observer Mission, there shall be set off against their outstanding obligations their respective share of other income in the total amount of 821,900 dollars in respect of the financial period ended 30 June 2009, in accordance with the scheme set out in paragraph 14 above;

16. *Also decides* to keep under review during its sixty-fourth session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia".

RESOLUTION 64/239

Adopted at the 68th plenary meeting, on 24 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/592, para. 6)

64/239. Financing of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994

The General Assembly,

I

Second performance report on the budget of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda for the biennium 2008–2009

Having considered the second performance report of the Secretary-General on the budget, for the biennium 2008–2009, of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994,[52] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[53]

Recalling its resolution 49/251 of 20 July 1995 on the financing of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda and its subsequent resolutions thereon, the latest of which were resolutions 62/229 of 22 December 2007 and 63/254 of 24 December 2008,

1. *Takes note* of the second performance report of the Secretary-General on the budget, for the biennium 2008–2009, of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994[52] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[53]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in section III.B of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;

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[52] A/64/538.

[53] See A/64/555.

3. *Resolves* that, for the biennium 2008–2009, the amount of 305,378,600 United States dollars gross (282,597,100 dollars net) approved in its resolution 63/254 for the financing of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda shall be adjusted by the amount of 840,600 dollars gross (3,224,500 dollars net), for a total amount of 304,538,000 dollars gross (279,372,600 dollars net);

II

Budget of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda for the biennium 2010–2011

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General on the financing of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda for the biennium 2010–2011[54] and on the revised estimates arising from the effects of changes in rates of exchange and inflation,[55]

Having also considered the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[53]

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General on the financing of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda for the biennium 2010–2011,[54] and on the revised estimates arising from the effects of changes in rates of exchange and inflation;[55]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[53] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

3. *Welcomes* the arrest of two further indictees, requests the Tribunal to proceed with their prosecutions from available resources, and requests the Secretary-General, in this respect, to report to the General Assembly on the financial implications of these prosecutions at its next session;

4. *Also welcomes* the work of the Tribunal to ensure the expeditious completion of its mandate and, with regard to the current budget, the commensurate reduction in the cost of the Tribunal;

5. *Recognizes* the critical importance of retaining highly skilled and experienced staff members with relevant institutional memory in order to successfully complete the trials and meet the targets set out in the completion strategy of the Tribunal;

6. *Reaffirms* paragraph 5 of its resolution 63/256 of 24 December 2008, and requests the Secretary-General to utilize his existing authority under the existing contractual framework to offer contracts to staff, taking into account the needs of the Tribunal;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to explore the possibility of employing at the United Nations, should their services be required, staff who remain with the Tribunal until the completion of its mandate;

8. *Recognizes* the importance of ensuring that the Tribunal retains the courtroom capacity needed for the expeditious completion of all trials, and in this regard, decides that the fourth courtroom shall be funded during the biennium from within the 2010–2011 budget;

9. *Notes* that the Tribunal relies on ad litem judges in the implementation of its completion strategy;

10. *Also notes* that the Secretary-General is conducting a review of conditions of service of ad litem judges at the Tribunal, and anticipates addressing the review at the first part of the resumed sixty-fourth session;

11. *Requests* that future budget proposals of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda and the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia be harmonized to facilitate better comparative analysis, particularly with respect to their completion strategies;

12. *Decides* to appropriate to the Special Account for the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994 a total amount of 245,295,800 dollars gross (227,246,500 dollars net) for the biennium 2010–2011, as detailed in the annex to the present resolution;

13. *Also decides* that the total assessment for 2010 under the Special Account amounting to 121,807,300 dollars shall consist of:

(*a*) 122,647,900 dollars, being half of the estimated appropriation approved for the biennium 2010–2011;

(*b*) 840,600 dollars, being the decrease in the final appropriation for the biennium 2008–2009 approved by the General Assembly in paragraph 3 of section I above;

14. *Further decides* to apportion the amount of 60,903,650 dollars gross (55,199,375 dollars net) among Member States in accordance with the scale of assessments applicable to the regular budget of the United Nations for 2010;

15. *Decides* to apportion the amount of 60,903,650 dollars gross (55,199,375 dollars net) among Member States in accordance with the scale of assessments applicable to peacekeeping operations for 2010;

16. *Also decides* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraphs 14 and 15 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 11,408,550 dollars approved for the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda for 2010.

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[54] A/64/478.

[55] A/64/570.

Annex

Financing for the biennium 2010–2011 of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994

	Gross	*Net*
	(United States dollars)	
Estimated appropriation for the biennium 2010–2011	257 849 900	239 988 300
Revised estimates: effects of changes in rates of exchange and inflation	5 186 500	5 066 200
Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions	(18 421 000)	(18 421 000)
Proposals under the standardized access control project (A/64/532) less the reduction recommended by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions	680 400	613 000
Recommendations of the Fifth Committee	—	—
Estimated initial appropriation for the biennium 2010–2011	245 295 800	227 246 500
Total assessment for 2010	**121 807 300**	**110 398 750**
Comprising:		
(*a*) Requirements representing half of the estimated appropriation for the biennium 2010–2011	122 647 900	113 623 250
(*b*) Requirements arising from the final appropriation for the biennium 2008–2009	(840 600)	(3 224 500)
Of which:		
Contributions assessed on Member States in accordance with the scale of assessments applicable to the regular budget of the United Nations for 2010	60 903 650	55 199 375
Contributions assessed on Member States in accordance with the scale of assessments applicable to peacekeeping operations of the United Nations for 2010	60 903 650	55 199 375

RESOLUTION 64/240

Adopted at the 68th plenary meeting, on 24 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/593, para. 6)

64/240. Financing of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991

The General Assembly,

I

Second performance report on the budget of the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia for the biennium 2008–2009

Having considered the second performance report of the Secretary-General on the budget, for the biennium 2008–2009, of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991[56] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[57]

Recalling its resolution 47/235 of 14 September 1993 on the financing of the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia and its subsequent resolutions thereon, the latest of which were resolutions 62/230 of 22 December 2007 and 63/255 of 24 December 2008,

1. *Takes note* of the second performance report of the Secretary-General on the budget, for the biennium 2008–2009, of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991[56] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[57]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in section IV.B of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;

3. *Resolves* that, for the biennium 2008–2009, the amount of 376,232,900 United States dollars gross (342,067,000 dollars net) approved in its resolution 63/255 for the financing of the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia shall be adjusted by the amount of 12,655,400 dollars gross (3,623,900 dollars net), for a total amount of 388,888,300 dollars gross (345,690,900 dollars net);

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[56] A/64/512.

[57] See A/64/555.

II

Budget of the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia for the biennium 2010–2011

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General on the financing of the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia for the biennium 2010–2011[58] and on the revised estimates arising from the effects of changes in rates of exchange and inflation,[59]

Having also considered the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[57]

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General on the financing of the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia for the biennium 2010–2011[58] and on the revised estimates arising from the effects of changes in rates of exchange and inflation;[59]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[57] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

3. *Welcomes* the work of the Tribunal to ensure the expeditious completion of its mandate and, with regard to the current budget, the commensurate reduction in the financing of the Tribunal;

4. *Stresses* the importance of transparency in the presentation of staffing changes;

5. *Emphasizes* that redeployment should not be used to transfer posts to different functional areas;

6. *Takes note* of paragraphs 49 (*a*) to (*d*) of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, and decides not to accept the redeployment and reclassification of staff as set out in paragraphs 72 to 74 of the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the Tribunal for the biennium 2010–2011;

7. *Decides* to establish the following posts:

(*a*) One P-5 Chief of the Immediate Office of the Registrar;

(*b*) One P-4 Legal Officer for the Immediate Office of the Registrar;

(*c*) One P-3 Legal Officer for the Immediate Office of the Registrar;

(*d*) One P-4 Head of the Press and Information Office;

(*e*) One P-3 Registry Liaison Officer in Zagreb;

8. *Emphasizes* that general temporary assistance positions shall be provided to replace posts while their functions are required;

9. *Requests* that future budget proposals of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda and the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia be harmonized to facilitate better comparative analysis, particularly with respect to their completion strategies;

10. *Decides* to appropriate to the Special Account for the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991 a total amount of 290,285,500 dollars gross (268,265,300 dollars net) for the biennium 2010–2011, as detailed in the annex to the present resolution;

11. *Also decides* that the financing of the appropriation for the biennium 2010–2011 under the Special Account shall take into account the estimated income of 277,500 dollars for the biennium, which shall be set off against the aggregate amount of the appropriation;

12. *Further decides* that the total assessment for 2010 under the Special Account, amounting to 157,659,400 dollars, shall consist of:

(*a*) 145,004,000 dollars, being half of the estimated appropriation approved for the biennium 2010–2011, after taking into account 138,750 dollars, which is half of the estimated income for the biennium of 277,500 dollars;

(*b*) 12,655,400 dollars, being the increase in the final appropriation for the biennium 2008–2009 approved by the General Assembly in paragraph 3 of section I above;

13. *Decides* to apportion the amount of 78,829,700 dollars gross (68,808,900 dollars net) among Member States in accordance with the scale of assessments applicable to the regular budget of the United Nations for 2010;

14. *Also decides* to apportion the amount of 78,829,700 dollars gross (68,808,900 dollars net) among Member States in accordance with the scale of assessments applicable to peacekeeping operations for 2010;

15. *Further decides* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraphs 13 and 14 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 20,041,600 dollars approved for the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia for 2010.

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[58] A/64/476.

[59] A/64/570.

Annex

Financing for the biennium 2010–2011 of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991

	Gross	*Net*
	(United States dollars)	
Estimated appropriation for the biennium 2010–2011	294 311 100	272 744 600
Revised estimates: effect of changes in rates of exchange and inflation	16 783 000	16 239 800
Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions	(20 171 000)	(20 171 000)
Recommendations of the Fifth Committee	(637 600)	(548 100)
Estimated initial appropriation for the biennium 2010–2011	290 285 500	268 265 300
Less:		
Estimated income for the biennium 2010–2011	(277 500)	(277 500)
Total assessment for 2010	**157 659 400**	**137 617 800**
Comprising:		
(*a*) Requirements representing half of the estimated appropriation for the biennium 2010–2011, after taking into account 138,750 dollars, which is half of the estimated income for the biennium 2010–2011 of 277,500 dollars	145 004 000	133 993 900
(*b*) Requirements arising from the final appropriation for the biennium 2008–2009	12 655 400	3 623 900
Of which:		
Contributions assessed on Member States in accordance with the scale of assessments applicable to the regular budget of the United Nations for 2010	78 829 700	68 808 900
Contributions assessed on Member States in accordance with the scale of assessments applicable to peacekeeping operations of the United Nations for 2010	78 829 700	68 808 900

RESOLUTION 64/241

Adopted at the 68th plenary meeting, on 24 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/594, para. 8)

64/241. After-service health insurance

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 58/249 A of 23 December 2003, section III of its resolution 60/255 of 8 May 2006 and its resolutions 60/283 of 7 July 2006 and 61/264 of 4 April 2007,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on liabilities and proposed funding for after-service health insurance benefits[60] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[61]

Having also considered the report of the Joint Inspection Unit on United Nations system staff medical coverage[62] and the comments of the Secretary-General and those of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination thereon,[63]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on liabilities and proposed funding for after-service health insurance benefits;[60]

2. *Also takes note* of the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[61]

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-seventh session, for its priority consideration, a report on managing after-service health insurance liabilities, bearing in mind that the "pay-as-you-go" principle is also one of the viable options, and to include in that report, information on and an analysis of the following issues, inter alia;

(*a*) Scope and coverage of existing after-service health insurance plans;

(*b*) Administration costs related to alternative financial options;

(*c*) Arrangements for ensuring accurate funding from the different sources of funding;

(*d*) Options for contribution levels to after-service health insurance plans by its participants and by the United Nations;

(*e*) Comprehensive long-term strategies for financing after-service health insurance liabilities;

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[60] A/64/366.

[61] A/64/7/Add.4. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 7A*

[62] See A/62/541.

[63] See A/62/541/Add.1.

(*f*) Further measures to reduce the United Nations costs related to health-care plans;

(*g*) After-service health insurance plans for retired public sector employees offered by their respective Governments;

(*h*) The financial and legal implications of changing, for current retirees and active staff members: (i) the scope and coverage of the after-service health insurance plans and (ii) the contribution levels;

4. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue to validate the accrued liabilities with the figures audited by the Board of Auditors and to include this information and the outcome of the validation in the report requested in paragraph 3 above.

RESOLUTIONS 64/242 A and B

Adopted at the 68th plenary meeting, on 24 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/594, para. 8)

64/242. Programme budget for the biennium 2008–2009

A

FINAL BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE BIENNIUM 2008–2009

The General Assembly

1. *Takes note* of the second performance report of the Secretary-General on the programme budget for the biennium 2008–2009,[64] and endorses the observations and recommendations contained in the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[65]

2. *Resolves* that, for the biennium 2008–2009:

(*a*) The amount of 4,885,155,400 United States dollars appropriated by it in its resolutions 63/264 A of 24 December 2008, 63/268 of 7 April 2009 and 63/283 of 30 June 2009 shall be decreased by 85,240,900 dollars, as follows:

Section		*Amount approved in resolutions 63/264 A, 63/268 and 63/283*	*Increase/ (decrease)*	*Final appropriation*
		(United States dollars)		
	Part I. *Overall policymaking, direction and coordination*			
1.	Overall policymaking, direction and coordination	94 562 100	(2 588 700)	91 973 400
2.	General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management	662 261 100	3 252 500	665 513 600
	Subtotal	**756 823 200**	**663 800**	**757 487 000**
	Part II. *Political affairs*			
3.	Political affairs	980 078 600	(4 059 100)	976 019 500
4.	Disarmament	22 459 700	(191 900)	22 267 800
5.	Peacekeeping operations	105 788 500	(4 855 900)	100 932 600
6.	Peaceful uses of outer space	7 642 300	354 400	7 996 700
	Subtotal	**1 115 969 100**	**(8 752 500)**	**1 107 216 600**

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[64] A/64/545.

[65] A/64/574.

Section		*Amount approved in resolutions 63/264 A, 63/268 and 63/283*	*Increase/ (decrease)*	*Final appropriation*
			(United States dollars)	
	Part III. *International justice and law*			
7.	International Court of Justice	45 127 700	822 600	45 950 300
8.	Legal affairs	47 708 200	(312 500)	47 395 700
	Subtotal	**92 835 900**	**510 100**	**93 346 000**
	Part IV. *International cooperation for development*			
9.	Economic and social affairs	165 534 400	(6 362 100)	159 172 300
10.	Least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States	5 862 900	(749 500)	5 113 400
11.	United Nations support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development	12 208 100	(3 445 200)	8 762 900
12.	Trade and development	133 094 600	(4 661 800)	128 432 800
13.	International Trade Centre UNCTAD/WTO	30 873 700	(60 600)	30 813 100
14.	Environment	14 059 800	(161 800)	13 898 000
15.	Human settlements	20 801 600	323 700	21 125 300
16.	International drug control, crime and terrorism prevention and criminal justice	37 575 900	1 876 400	39 452 300
	Subtotal	**420 011 000**	**(13 240 900)**	**406 770 100**
	Part V. *Regional cooperation for development*			
17.	Economic and social development in Africa	128 642 100	(16 390 500)	112 251 600
18.	Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific	92 415 800	(1 679 500)	90 736 300
19.	Economic development in Europe	64 726 300	(1 836 300)	62 890 000
20.	Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean	103 159 300	842 300	104 001 600
21.	Economic and social development in Western Asia	64 718 700	(4 712 500)	60 006 200
22.	Regular programme of technical cooperation	54 832 500	(3 298 000)	51 534 500
	Subtotal	**508 494 700**	**(27 074 500)**	**481 420 200**
	Part VI. *Human rights and humanitarian affairs*			
23.	Human rights	127 353 200	(8 965 900)	118 387 300
24.	International protection, durable solutions and assistance to refugees	80 005 500	—	80 005 500
25.	Palestine refugees	45 070 100	(5 076 700)	39 993 400
26.	Humanitarian assistance	29 861 800	(522 500)	29 339 300
	Subtotal	**282 290 600**	**(14 565 100)**	**267 725 500**
	Part VII. *Public information*			
27.	Public information	189 374 600	(843 400)	188 531 200
	Subtotal	**189 374 600**	**(843 400)**	**188 531 200**

Section		Amount approved in resolutions 63/264 A, 63/268 and 63/283	Increase/ (decrease)	Final appropriation
		(United States dollars)		
	Part VIII. *Common support services*			
28A.	Office of the Under-Secretary-General for Management	15 593 900	2 139 100	17 733 000
28B.	Office of Programme Planning, Budget and Accounts	40 645 700	(6 382 600)	34 263 100
28C.	Office of Human Resources Management	73 048 700	484 100	73 532 800
28D.	Office of Central Support Services	211 088 400	(562 300)	210 526 100
28E.	Administration, Geneva	122 047 100	2 138 700	124 185 800
28F.	Administration, Vienna	39 652 400	706 800	40 359 200
28G.	Administration, Nairobi	27 642 200	1 015 500	28 657 700
36.	Office of Information and Communications Technology	37 031 600	5 618 200	42 649 800
	Subtotal	**566 750 000**	**5 157 500**	**571 907 500**
	Part IX. *Internal oversight*			
29.	Internal oversight	37 482 700	(1 715 800)	35 766 900
	Subtotal	**37 482 700**	**(1 715 800)**	**35 766 900**
	Part X. *Jointly financed administrative activities and special expenses*			
30.	Jointly financed administrative activities	12 455 400	(916 800)	11 538 600
31.	Special expenses	100 372 700	2 565 300	102 938 000
	Subtotal	**112 828 100**	**1 648 500**	**114 476 600**
	Part XI. *Capital expenditures*			
32.	Construction, alteration, improvement and major maintenance	62 199 400	(510 400)	61 689 000
	Subtotal	**62 199 400**	**(510 400)**	**61 689 000**
	Part XII. *Safety and security*			
33.	Safety and security	207 925 900	(7 349 400)	200 576 500
	Subtotal	**207 925 900**	**(7 349 400)**	**200 576 500**
	Part XIII. *Development Account*			
34.	Development Account	18 651 300	7 500 000	26 151 300
	Subtotal	**18 651 300**	**7 500 000**	**26 151 300**
	Part XIV. *Staff assessment*			
35.	Staff assessment	513 518 900	(26 668 800)	486 850 100
	Subtotal	**513 518 900**	**(26 668 800)**	**486 850 100**
	Total	**4 885 155 400**	**(85 240 900)**	**4 799 914 500**

(*b*) The Secretary-General shall be authorized to transfer credits between sections of the budget, with the concurrence of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;

(*c*) In addition to the appropriations approved under subparagraph (a) above, an amount of 75,000 dollars shall be appropriated for each year of the biennium 2008–2009 from the accumulated income of the Library Endowment Fund for the purchase of books, periodicals, maps and library equipment and for such other expenses of the Library at the Palais des Nations in Geneva as are in accordance with the objects and provisions of the endowment;

(*d*) To increase the provision under section 34 (Development Account) by the amount of 7.5 million dollars.

B

FINAL INCOME ESTIMATES FOR THE BIENNIUM 2008–2009

The General Assembly

Resolves that, for the biennium 2008–2009:

(*a*) The estimates of income of 557,855,700 United States dollars approved by it in its resolutions 63/264 B of 24 December 2008, 63/268 of 7 April 2009 and 63/283 of 30 June 2009 shall be decreased by 7,478,600 dollars, as follows:

Income section		*Amount approved in resolutions 63/264 B, 63/268 and 63/283*	*Increase/ (decrease)*	*Final estimate*
		(United States dollars)		
1.	Income from staff assessment	518 124 800	(27 165 000)	490 959 800
	Subtotal	**518 124 800**	**(27 165 000)**	**490 959 800**
2.	General income	37 751 000	15 427 300	53 178 300
3.	Services to the public	1 979 900	4 259 100	6 239 000
	Subtotal	**39 730 900**	**19 686 400**	**59 417 300**
	Total	**557 855 700**	**(7 478 600)**	**550 377 100**

(*b*) The income from staff assessment shall be credited to the Tax Equalization Fund in accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955;

(*c*) Direct expenses of the United Nations Postal Administration, services to visitors, catering and related services, garage operations, television services and the sale of publications not provided for under the budget appropriations shall be charged against the income derived from those activities.

RESOLUTION 64/243

Adopted at the 68th plenary meeting, on 24 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/548/Add.1, para. 34)

64/243. Questions relating to the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2010–2011

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 58/270 of 23 December 2003, 60/246 of 23 December 2005, 61/263 of 4 April 2007, 62/236 of 22 December 2007 and 63/262 of 24 December 2008,

Reaffirming its resolutions 41/213 of 19 December 1986, 42/211 of 21 December 1987, 45/248 B, section VI, of 21 December 1990, 55/231 of 23 December 2000, 56/253 of 24 December 2001, 58/269 and 58/270 of 23 December 2003, 59/276, section XI, of 23 December 2004, 60/247 A to C of 23 December 2005, 60/283 of 7 July 2006, 62/237 A to C of 22 December 2007 and 63/266 of 24 December 2008,

Reaffirming also the respective mandates of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and the Committee for Programme and Coordination in the consideration of the proposed programme budget,

Reaffirming further the role of the General Assembly, through the Fifth Committee, in carrying out a thorough analysis and approval of posts and financial resources, as well as of human resources policies,

Having considered the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2010–2011,[66] the report of the Secretary-General on the enterprise content management and customer relationship management systems and proposal for a unified disaster recovery and business continuity plan,[67] the first progress report of the Secretary-General on the enterprise resource planning project,[68] the second progress report of the Secretary-General on the adoption of International Public Sector

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[66] A/64/6 (Introduction) and Corr.1, (Sect. 1) and Corr.1, (Sects. 2–3), (Sect. 4) and Corr.1, (Sect. 5) and Corr.1, (Sect. 6), (Sect. 7) and Corr.1, (Sects. 8–10), (Sect. 11) and Corr.1, (Sect. 12), (Sect. 13) and Add.1, (Sects. 14–16), (Sect. 17) and Corr.1, (Sects. 18–21), (Sect. 22) and Corr.1, (Sects. 23–26), (Sect. 27) and Corr.1, (Sect. 28), (Sects. 28A–C), (Sect. 28D) and Add.1, (Sects. 28E and F), (Sect. 28G) and Corr.1, (Sect. 29) and Corr.1, (Sects. 30–32), (Sect. 33) and Add.1, (Sect. 34) and Add.1, (Sects. 35 and 36), (Income sects. 1–3).

[67] A/64/477.

[68] A/64/380.

Accounting Standards by the United Nations,[69] the report of the Secretary-General on revised estimates relating to business continuity management,[70] the sixth progress report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of projects financed from the Development Account,[71] the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Conditions of service and compensation for officials, other than Secretariat officials, serving the General Assembly: full-time members of the International Civil Service Commission and the Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions",[72] the reports of the Secretary-General on safety and security issues,[73] the letter dated 10 December 2009 from the President of the General Assembly addressed to the Chairman of the Fifth Committee,[74] the report of the Secretary-General on limited budgetary discretion[75] and the related reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[76]

Having also considered chapter II, section A, of the report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on its forty-ninth session,[77] the consolidated report of the Secretary-General on the changes to the biennial programme plan as reflected in the programme budget for 2008–2009[78] and the consolidated report of the Secretary-General on the changes to the biennial programme plan as reflected in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2010–2011,[79]

Having further considered the report of the Independent Audit Advisory Committee on the proposed programme budget for internal oversight for the biennium 2010–2011,[80] the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the audit of human resources management at the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights,[81] the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the efficiency of the implementation of the mandate of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights[82] and the related note by the Secretary-General,[83] the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the audit of conference services put at the disposal of the Human Rights Council in 2009[84] and the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the comprehensive management audit of the Department of Safety and Security,[85]

Having considered the reports of the Joint Inspection Unit on the review of management of Internet websites in the United Nations system organizations,[86] the review of information and communication technology hosting services in the United Nations system organizations,[87] liaison offices in the United Nations system[88] and a common payroll for United Nations system organizations,[89] as well as the notes by the Secretary-General transmitting his comments and those of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination thereon,[90]

Recognizing the detrimental effect of the withholding of assessed contributions on the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations and its ability to implement mandates and programmes,

1. *Stresses* that all Member States should fulfil their financial obligations as set out in the Charter of the United Nations on time, in full and without conditions;

2. *Reaffirms* that the Fifth Committee is the appropriate Main Committee of the General Assembly entrusted with responsibilities for administrative and budgetary matters, and reaffirms the role of the Fifth Committee in carrying out a thorough analysis and approving human and financial resources and policies, with a view to ensuring full, effective and efficient implementation of all mandated programmes and activities and the implementation of policies in this regard;

3. *Also reaffirms* rule 153 of its rules of procedure;

4. *Further reaffirms* the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation;[91]

5. *Reaffirms* the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations;[92]

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[69] A/64/355.

[70] A/64/472.

[71] A/64/89.

[72] A/63/354.

[73] A/64/6 (Sect. 34)/Add.1, A/64/532, A/63/605 and A/62/641.

[74] A/C.5/64/10.

[75] A/64/562.

[76] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 7* (A/64/7); A/64/7/Add.8, 9, 11, 15 and Corr.1, and Add.16 and 18 (for the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 7A*); A/63/726; and A/64/531.

[77] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 16* (A/64/16).

[78] A/64/73 and Corr.1.

[79] A/64/74.

[80] A/64/86.

[81] A/64/201.

[82] A/64/203 and Corr.1.

[83] A/64/203/Add.1.

[84] A/64/511.

[85] A/63/379.

[86] See A/64/95.

[87] See A/64/96.

[88] See A/63/151 and Corr.1.

[89] See A/60/582.

[90] A/64/95/Add.1, A/64/96/Add.1, A/63/151/Add.1 and A/60/582/Add.1.

[91] ST/SGB/2000/8.

[92] ST/SGB/2003/7.

6. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination as contained in chapter II, section A, of its report;[77]

7. *Also endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the first report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2010–2011,[93] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

Policy/cross-cutting issues

8. *Reaffirms* the established budgetary procedures and methodologies, based on its resolutions 41/213 and 42/211;

9. *Also reaffirms* paragraph 21 of its resolution 51/221 B of 18 December 1996, in which it decided that no changes to the budget methodology, to established budgetary procedures and practices or to the financial regulations could be implemented without prior review and approval by the General Assembly, through the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, in accordance with agreed budgetary procedures;

10. *Stresses* the need for Member States to participate fully in the budget preparation process, from its early stages and throughout the process;

11. *Emphasizes* the importance of providing the consistent and timely information necessary to enable Member States to make well-informed decisions;

12. *Reiterates* the priorities of the Organization for the biennium 2010–2011 as outlined in General Assembly resolution 63/266;

13. *Also reiterates* that the allocation of resources should reflect fully the priorities established in the biennial programme plan;

14. *Notes with concern* that the allocation of resources in the proposed programme budget does not track precisely the priorities of the Organization, as adopted in resolution 63/266, and stresses the need to correct imbalances in the allocation of resources among the three pillars of the Organization;

15. *Recalls* paragraph 10 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[93] stresses the need to present the budget in a comprehensive and holistic manner, and requests the Secretary-General, for all future proposed programme budgets, to take the steps necessary to ensure the fullest possible picture of the requirements of the Organization for the full biennium;

16. *Urges* the Secretary-General to ensure that a complete and timely budget is presented to Member States in the future;

17. *Notes* the practice of incremental budgeting where only new requirements are justified, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that whenever new proposals lead to requests for additional resources, sufficient efforts are made to meet the new requirements using existing resources;

18. *Also notes* the efforts of the Secretary-General to meet the emerging needs of the Organization by redeploying existing posts and non-post resources, in accordance with the established rules and procedures and relevant resolutions of the General Assembly;

19. *Reaffirms its request* to the Secretary-General, in future budget submissions, to propose measures to offset budget increases, wherever possible, without undermining the implementation of mandated programmes and activities;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to intensify efforts to ensure that direct and quantifiable objectives, expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement are included in future proposed programme budgets that are directly and clearly linked to the objectives of the programme and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session through the Committee for Programme and Coordination;

21. *Recalls* paragraph 29 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[93] and stresses that the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2012–2013 should provide a clear picture of the reform measures that have been taken, their budgetary implications and the efficiency gains derived from their implementation as well as an assessment of progress in accomplishing the objectives;

22. *Also recalls* paragraph 21 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[93] notes that cost accounting is more suitably applied to the support services of the Organization and may not be suitable for use in its substantive work, and requests the Secretary-General to develop an effective methodology for measuring and conducting comparisons over time of the costs of support services in the budget and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session;

23. *Reaffirms* the role of the Committee for Programme and Coordination as the main subsidiary organ of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council for planning, programming and coordination;

24. *Notes* chapter I, section A, of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[93] and in this context reiterates that the Committee for Programme and Coordination is the sole subsidiary organ of the General Assembly for planning, programming and coordination;

25. *Emphasizes* the importance of continuous efforts to reduce administrative costs as a proportion of the regular budget

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[93] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 7* (A/64/7).

with a view to maximizing the resources available for programmatic purposes;

26. *Recalls* paragraph 14 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[93] stresses that results-based budgeting and results-based management are mutually supportive management tools and that improved implementation of results-based budgeting enhances both management and accountability in the Secretariat, and encourages the Secretary-General to continue his efforts in this regard;

27. *Also recalls* paragraph 1 of its resolution 63/247 of 24 December 2008, in which it approved the recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination, and requests the Secretary-General to further improve the results-based budgeting framework and the qualitative aspects of indicators of achievement, as recommended by the Committee for Programme and Coordination;

28. *Reaffirms* paragraph 28 of resolution 55/231, and stresses the importance of adequate training to ensure the full implementation of results-based budgeting;

29. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that, in presenting the programme budget, expected accomplishments and, where possible, indicators of achievement are included to measure achievements in the implementation of the programmes of the Organization and not those of individual Member States;

Human resources, vacancy rates and staffing

30. *Takes note* of paragraph 44 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[93] stresses that, for budgetary purposes, a post is defined as vacant only if no person is charged against the post, and notes that the enterprise resource planning system should assist in providing comprehensive information on vacancies;

31. *Stresses* the importance of having a comprehensive succession plan for the Organization, including, inter alia, for the language services, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to formulate a strategy on succession planning for all departments of the Secretariat and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session;

32. *Requests* the Secretary-General to examine the continuing need for posts that fall vacant owing to retirements in the biennium 2010–2011 and to report thereon in the context of the second performance report on the programme budget for the biennium;

33. *Reaffirms* the role of the General Assembly with regard to the structure of the Secretariat, including the creation, conversion, suppression and redeployment of posts, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to provide the Assembly with comprehensive information on all decisions involving established and temporary high-level posts, including equivalent positions financed from the regular budget and from extrabudgetary resources;

34. *Also reaffirms* Article 101, paragraph 3, of the Charter, further reaffirms sections IX and X of its resolution 63/250 of 24 December 2008, and requests the Secretary-General to recruit staff to fill the posts approved in the budget for the biennium 2010–2011 with a view to improving geographical representation and gender balance in the Secretariat, with due regard to the principle of equitable geographical distribution;

35. *Regrets* the slow pace of recruitment in the Organization, and requests the Secretary-General to fill vacancies expeditiously, in accordance with relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and existing provisions governing recruitment in the United Nations;

36. *Reaffirms* that the vacancy rate is a tool for budgetary calculations and should not be used to achieve budgetary savings;

37. *Decides* that a vacancy rate of 9.6 per cent for Professional staff, 4 per cent for General Service staff, 14.0 per cent for Professional field security staff and 14.7 per cent for General Service field security staff, respectively, shall be used as a basis for the calculation of the budget for the biennium 2010–2011;

Extrabudgetary resources

38. *Welcomes* the efforts by donors to continue to support priorities approved by the General Assembly;

39. *Stresses* that all extrabudgetary posts must be administered and managed with the same rigour as regular budget posts;

40. *Also stresses* that extrabudgetary resources shall be used in consistency with the policies, aims and activities of the Organization, and requests the Secretary-General to provide information on the financial and human resource implications of the use of extrabudgetary resources in the Organization in his next proposed programme budget;

41. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include, in future budget submissions, clear and specific information on extrabudgetary resources, in order to make a distinction between voluntary and assessed contributions, and programme support costs;

Consultants

42. *Recalls* paragraphs IV.8 and IV.41 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[93] and requests the Secretary-General to select consultants and experts, as well as staff charged against general temporary assistance, on as wide a geographical basis as possible, in accordance with Article 101, paragraph 3, of the Charter and the provisions of General Assembly resolution 53/221 of 7 April 1999;

43. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that, in future programme budget proposals, requests for consultants and experts are clearly and separately identified in the programme narratives;

Training

44. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to allocate the approved resources for training on the basis of need and in an equitable manner, throughout the Secretariat, including for duty stations and regional commissions, and in this context stresses that equal training opportunities should be available for all staff, in accordance with their functions and categories;

45. *Stresses* that workshops, seminars and training courses should take advantage of the diverse sources of training opportunities available throughout the regions of the world;

Conference services and publications

46. *Emphasizes* the importance of ensuring that there is no discriminatory treatment among the principal organs of the United Nations and the Main Committees and subsidiary bodies, and that they are provided with adequate and quality conference services and support;

Non-post resources

47. *Decides* to reduce non-post resources by 2 per cent, other than under sections 35 (Development Account) and 28D (Office of Central Support Services) of the proposed programme budget;

48. *Also decides* to reduce by 7 per cent the overall requirements for consultants and experts in the biennium 2010–2011;

49. *Further decides* to reduce the overall requirements for external printing by one million United States dollars;

Recosting

50. *Acknowledges* the current challenges caused by the global financial crisis;

51. *Decides* not to assess in 2010 half of the amount for recosting pending review of the issue in the context of the first performance report on the programme budget for the biennium 2010–2011;

52. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in the context of the first performance report, to report on options for protecting the United Nations against fluctuations in exchange rates and inflation, drawing on the experience of other organizations of the United Nations system, as set out in section V of the second performance report of the Secretary-General on the programme budget for the biennium 2008–2009;[94]

Part I
Overall policymaking, direction and coordination

Section 1
Overall policymaking, direction and coordination

53. *Decides* to establish a dedicated post of Director-General of the United Nations Office at Nairobi at the level of Under-Secretary-General;

54. *Recalls* paragraph I.18 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[93] and decides to authorize the Advisory Committee to meet for an additional four weeks per biennium for a total of seventy-eight weeks, on an experimental basis;

55. *Notes* the ongoing management review of the secretariat of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;

56. *Encourages* the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, within its own mandate, to review its working methods and to inform the General Assembly of the results of the review;

57. *Recalls* paragraph 46 of its resolution 62/228 of 22 December 2007, and decides to establish a post of Legal Research Officer at the P-4 level for the Registry of the United Nations Dispute Tribunal in New York;

Section 2
General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management

58. *Recalls* that all documents should be translated in conformity with relevant resolutions of the General Assembly;

59. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that all duty stations are given equal treatment in respect of the application of modern technologies;

60. *Emphasizes* the paramount importance of the equality of the six official languages of the United Nations;

61. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to ensure the highest quality of interpretation and translation services in all official languages;

62. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to improve the on-time submission of documents and to institute measures for the accountability of the author departments for the late submission of documents;

63. *Takes note* of the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the audit of conference services put at the disposal of the Human Rights Council in 2009;[84]

64. *Notes with concern* the circumstances that led to insufficient conference services for the Human Rights Council in 2009, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that the Council, as well as other entities served by the Conference Services Division at the United Nations Office at Geneva, are

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[94] A/64/545.

provided with all conference services necessary to support their activities;

65. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report on ways to better address the needs of the Organization through enhancing the efficiency of services provided by the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management of the Secretariat;

66. *Notes* that the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review of the Human Rights Council should endeavour to apply in its reports the word limits established in the annex to the Human Rights Council President's statement 9/2[95], and requests the Secretary-General to report on any additional requirements in the context of the second performance report on the programme budget for the biennium 2010–2011;

67. *Stresses* the need for programme managers, and duty stations resourced through section 2 of the programme budget, to be cost-effective and efficient in the use of services from the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management, particularly with respect to the effective functioning of the global management of conference services, and requests the Secretary-General to develop mechanisms that would enhance accountability in this regard;

68. *Requests* the Secretary-General to undertake a comprehensive review of printing and publishing and translation services, including, inter alia, full costing of in- and out-of-house printing, publishing and translation and an analysis of the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management costing methodologies, with due consideration to quality and confidentiality, and without prejudice to the quality of all language services and with respect for the specificities of the six official languages, and to submit a report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session, to be considered in the context of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2012–2013;

69. *Recalls* paragraph I.83 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[93] and stresses that particular attention should be given to the provision of remote access to terminology and reference resources to all translators, editors and verbatim reporters working off site;

Part II
Political affairs

Section 4
Disarmament

70. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament with the necessary resources to discharge their mandates;

Section 5
Peacekeeping operations

71. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to make further concrete efforts to ensure proper representation of troop-contributing countries in the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Department of Field Support of the Secretariat, taking into account their contribution to United Nations peacekeeping;

Part III
International justice and law

Section 7
International Court of Justice

72. *Takes note* of paragraph III.4 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[93] and decides to increase the pool of Law Clerks by six P-2 posts;

Section 8
Legal affairs

73. *Decides* not to abolish the one General Service (Other level) post in the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea;

Part IV
International cooperation for development

74. *Requests* the Secretary-General to intensify his efforts to mobilize adequate resources from all sources to support the mandates related to sections 10 and 11 of the programme budget during the biennium 2010–2011;

75. *Reaffirms* its resolutions 57/7 of 4 November 2002 and 57/300 of 20 December 2002, by which it established the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa, and its resolution 56/227 of 24 December 2001, by which it established the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States;

76. *Also reaffirms* the relevant provisions of its resolutions 62/236 of 22 December 2007 and 63/260 of 24 December 2008 and, in this regard, requests the Secretary-General to implement the provisions pertaining to the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa and the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States in those resolutions accordingly, in full and without delay;

Section 9
Economic and social affairs

77. *Decides* to establish one P-5 post and one P-4 post to provide programme support to the Development Account;

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[95] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-third Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/63/53/Add.1), chap. III.

Section 10

Least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States

78. *Recalls* paragraph 75 of its resolution 62/236, and requests a detailed description of the new donor strategy of the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2012–2013;

79. *Emphasizes* the crucial importance of the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, established as the follow-up mechanism to ensure the timely and effective implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001–2010,[96] the Almaty Programme of Action: Addressing the Special Needs of Landlocked Developing Countries within a New Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation for Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries,[97] and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States;[98]

Section 11

United Nations support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development

80. *Recalls* that the development of Africa is an established priority of the United Nations, and reaffirms its commitment to address the special needs of Africa;

81. *Also recalls* General Assembly resolution 57/300 and other resolutions calling for the strengthening of mechanisms to support the New Partnership for Africa's Development;[99]

Section 12

Trade and development

82. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to broaden the efforts of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development in supporting the strengthening of regional economic integration in Africa by providing, within the allocation to the Conference, technical assistance and capacity-building in the areas of trade, customs and infrastructure, including the strengthening of statistical capacity;

Section 16

International drug control, crime and terrorism prevention and criminal justice

83. *Expresses its appreciation* to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime for having successfully drawn the attention of the international community to the security problem in West Africa related to illicit trafficking and transnational organized crime, requests the Secretary-General to provide an effective level of support to the joint United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime/Department of Peacekeeping Operations/Department of Political Affairs/United Nations Office for West Africa/International Criminal Police Organization programme concept known as the West Africa Coast Initiative, and recommends that a sufficient share of the regular budget continue to be allocated to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to enable it to carry out its mandate in a consistent and stable manner;

84. *Welcomes* the initiative of the Secretary-General to open a programme office of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in Barbados to collaborate with the Caribbean Community in such areas as corruption, drug trafficking, international judicial cooperation and the promotion of firearms control, and looks forward to its establishment;

85. *Expresses concern* at the overall financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, and requests the Secretary-General to submit proposals in his proposed programme budget for the biennium 2012–2013 to ensure that the Office has sufficient resources to carry out its mandate;

Part V

Regional cooperation for development

86. *Emphasizes* the important contribution that the regional commissions are making towards the implementation of the development agenda and other mandates given to them arising from the outcome of the Millennium Summit, the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development and other major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields;

87. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the resource requirements of the commissions are allocated in such a way as to enable them to fully implement their mandates and contribute to the implementation of the development priorities and mandates of the Organization;

Section 17

Economic and social development in Africa

88. *Recalls* paragraph V.28 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[93] expresses concern at the negative impact of post reductions on

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[96] A/CONF.191/13, chap. II.

[97] *Report of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation, Almaty, Kazakhstan, 28 and 29 August 2003* (A/CONF.202/3), annex I.

[98] *Report of the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Port Louis, Mauritius, 10–14 January 2005* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.05.II.A.4 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[99] A/57/304, annex.

programme implementation, and decides to review the staffing requirements of the Economic Commission for Africa from all sources of funding;

89. *Recognizes* that the repositioning of the Economic Commission for Africa is a crucial element of reform shaping the work of the Commission, and notes that the repositioning will enhance the role of the Commission in strengthening coordination and collaboration among United Nations agencies and other agencies;

Part VI
Human rights and humanitarian affairs

Section 23
Human rights

90. *Encourages* Member States participating in the Junior Professional Officer programme to increase sponsorship of Junior Professional Officers from developing countries;

91. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in proposing posts for the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, to ensure that they conform to relevant legislative mandates, including those of the Human Rights Council;

92. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to assess the impact of the doubling of regular budgetary resources over the last two bienniums on all activities of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session;

93. *Recalls* paragraph 100 of its resolution 62/236, in which it decided to use the revised estimates for the biennium 2004–2005 as the basis for the agreed doubling of resources of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights;

94. *Takes note* of the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services[82] and the related note of the Secretary-General,[83] and requests the Secretary-General to ensure the full implementation of the recommendations contained therein, including those concerning the activities of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in the field, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session;

95. *Stresses* that the establishment of any future regional offices of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights requires thorough consultations with all Member States concerned, in accordance with all relevant legislative mandates;

Section 25
Palestine refugees

96. *Reaffirms* its resolution 3331B (XXIX) of 17 December 1974, stating that expenses for salaries of international staff in the service of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, which would otherwise be a charge on voluntary contributions, should be financed by the regular budget of the United Nations for the duration of the Agency's mandate;

97. *Notes with concern* the significant reduction in the total resources for the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East over the past ten years while the overall workload and responsibilities of the Agency have continued to increase;

98. *Also notes with concern* the acute cash crisis of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, and requests the Secretary-General to propose a possible funding mechanism to address this issue;

99. *Notes with appreciation* the valuable work done by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, and decides to approve the establishment of the following posts for the Agency: one D-2 for Director of Human Resources; one D-1 for Spokesperson; one P-5 for Ombudsperson; one P-5 for the Deputy Director, Relief and Social Services and Senior Poverty Adviser; one P-5 Senior Investigator; one P-4 Health Policy Planning Officer; one P-4 Monitoring and Evaluation Officer; one P-4 Field Programme Support Officer (Lebanon); one P-4 for the Special Assistant to the Deputy Commissioner-General; one P-3 Human Resources Officer; and one P-3 Monitoring and Evaluation Officer;

Part VII
Public information

Section 27
Public information

100. *Notes with concern* that the review requested in paragraph 120 of its resolution 62/236 has not been carried out, and requests the Secretary-General to undertake the requested review as a matter of priority and to include the results of the review in the first performance report on the programme budget for the biennium 2010–2011;

101. *Recalls* paragraph VII.19 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[93] and encourages the Secretary-General to ensure intensive collaboration with the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Department of Field Support to promote a positive image of the peacekeeping activities of the Organization and to support the public information components of peacekeeping missions;

102. *Stresses* the importance of the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat addressing effectively and in a timely manner any allegations of misconduct against peacekeepers, as well as other allegations against the Secretariat;

103. *Decides* to reclassify one P-2 post (Chinese web writer) to the P-3 level and one P-2 post (Russian web writer) to the P-3 level, with a view to ensuring the same level of support in those languages as in the other four official languages;

104. *Stresses* the importance of publishing United Nations information materials and translating important documents into languages other than United Nations official languages, with a view to reaching the widest possible spectrum of audiences and extending the United Nations message to all the corners of the world in order to strengthen international support for the activities of the Organization;

105. *Requests* the Secretary-General to promote public awareness of and to mobilize support for the work of the United Nations at the local level through all possible means of communication, including publications, the broadcasting of news and the network of United Nations information centres, bearing in mind that information in local languages has the strongest impact on local populations;

106. *Recognizes* the vital role of the United Nations information centres in promoting awareness about the United Nations, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to make efforts to mobilize resources for the effective functioning of United Nations information centres in developing countries;

107. *Requests* the Secretary-General to establish a United Nations information centre in Luanda to address the special needs of Portuguese-speaking African countries, and, in this context, welcomes the offer made by the Government of Angola to provide rent-free premises;

108. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue to expand the scope of press releases in addition to the existing languages in order to widen the United Nations message, assuring their comprehensiveness and up-to-date nature and ensuring their accuracy;

Part VIII
Common support services

109. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[100] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

110. *Reaffirms* the importance of including the participation of the most knowledgeable staff of the Organization in the implementation of the enterprise resource planning, enterprise content management, customer relationship management and disaster recovery and business continuity programmes and of developing in-house expertise and knowledge in the implementation of these programmes in order to support the systems after deployment;

Section 28A
Office of the Under-Secretary-General for Management

Enterprise resource planning project

111. *Recognizes* the considerable operational and financial risks involved in the implementation of the enterprise resource planning system, and stresses the need for the Secretary-General to ensure full accountability and clear lines of responsibility for the project;

112. *Reaffirms* that the enterprise resource planning system will serve as the backbone for implementation by the United Nations of the International Public Sector Accounting Standards;

113. *Endorses* the proposal of the Secretary-General to deploy the enterprise resource planning project through the "pilot first" option,[101] and, in this context, requests the Secretary-General to present options for lowering the cost of the project;

114. *Approves* 24,192,200 dollars for the enterprise resource planning system, to be funded from the regular budget for the biennium 2010–2011, including 11,775,900 dollars under section 28A, and authorizes the Secretary-General to enter into commitments in the amount of 12,416,300 dollars, taking due consideration of the lower-cost options referred to in paragraph 113 above;

115. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General to enter into commitments in a total amount not to exceed 28,516,500 dollars under the support account for peacekeeping operations for the period from 1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010 in respect of the support account share of the enterprise resource planning system and to report on the expenditures incurred, with justifications for the utilization of resources, in the context of the performance report on the support account for the period from 1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010;

116. *Notes* that future remaining requirements for the enterprise resource planning system will be included in subsequent budget proposals for the regular budget and the support account for peacekeeping operations for the financial periods until 2013;

117. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to ensure that the General Assembly is kept informed, on an annual basis, of the progress of the enterprise resource planning project, including milestones and deliverables, progress made, outstanding activities and utilization of resources, and to provide information on the resources that could be redistributed to the enterprise resource planning project as a result of the merging of any elements of other enterprise systems with the enterprise resource planning system;

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[100] A/64/7/Add.8, 9 and 11 (for the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 7A*); and A/64/531.

[101] See A/64/380.

Section 28C
Office of Human Resources Management

118. *Recalls* paragraph 51 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[93] and requests the Secretary-General not to take measures on geographic mobility until the consideration by the General Assembly of the proposals contained in the report requested in section VII of its resolution 63/250;

Section 28D
Office of Central Support Services

Business continuity management

119. *Also recalls* section III of its resolution 63/268 of 7 April 2009;

120. *Notes* the work undertaken and progress achieved so far by the Secretary-General in business continuity management in response to the business risks faced by the United Nations;

121. *Decides* to appropriate an amount of 2.2 million dollars for business continuity management, and requests the Secretary-General to submit a fully justified proposal for post and non-post resources in relation to the work currently under way on business continuity management in the context of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2012–2013;

122. *Requests* the Secretary-General, when developing comprehensive administrative and technical procedures and management and construction project guidelines for the implementation of future construction and major maintenance projects, to ensure that its relevant resolutions are strictly abided by, in particular the ones on procurement, and to draw upon the relevant lessons learned in the planning and implementation of the capital master plan;

Section 28G
Administration, Nairobi

123. *Recalls* paragraph 101 of its resolution 52/220 of 22 December 1997;

124. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to continue to bring the financial arrangements of the United Nations Office at Nairobi into line with those of similar United Nations administrative offices;

Section 29
Office of Information and Communications Technology

125. *Recognizes* the benefits of the implementation of the customer relationship management and enterprise content management systems, and reiterates its request to the Secretary-General to continue to implement these applications throughout the Organization as appropriate;

126. *Decides* not to appropriate resources for the enterprise content management and customer relationship management systems, and requests the Secretary-General to submit a fully justified proposal for post and non-post resources in the context of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2012–2013;

127. *Decides* to approve resources in the amount of 1.5 million dollars for the development of a unified disaster recovery plan and for maintaining the Brindisi enterprise data centre;

Part IX
Internal oversight

Section 30
Internal oversight

128. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the Office of Internal Oversight Services designs and implements a plan to complete a risk analysis in preparation for its 2012–2013 biennium budget request;

129. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the Office of Internal Oversight Services prepares a workplan for investigations;

130. *Reaffirms* its resolution 63/287 of 30 June 2009, and takes note of paragraphs IX.21 and IX.23 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[93]

Part X
Jointly financed administrative activities and special expenses

131. *Recalls* paragraph X.17 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[93] in which the Advisory Committee expressed concern that the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination might be taking on substantive functions that its member organizations were carrying out rather than continuing its focus on system-wide coordination;

132. *Decides* to reclassify one P-5 post to the D-1 level and to establish one P-4 post for the secretariat of the Chief Executives Board;

Part XI
Capital expenditures

133. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[102] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

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[102] A/64/7/Add.11. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 7A*.

134. *Recalls* paragraph XI.9 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[93] and decides to reduce provisions under section 33 by 10 million dollars;

135. *Stresses* the importance of a sound project management framework for the strategic heritage plan, with clearly assigned roles and responsibilities of all entities involved at Headquarters and at the United Nations Office at Geneva, and requests the Secretary-General to include in his progress report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session detailed information on the strategic heritage plan;

136. *Recalls* paragraph XI.11 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[93] and stresses that the renovation phase of the strategic heritage plan shall not start before the General Assembly has taken a decision on this matter and the capital master plan has been completed;

137. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the outcome of the conceptual engineering study of the strategic heritage plan, including an estimate of the overall costs and timeline of the project, to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session;

138. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to ensure that the conceptual engineering study for the strategic heritage plan identifies all viable alternatives in the most cost-effective and efficient manner;

Part XII
Safety and security

139. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[103]

Part XIII
Development Account

Section 35
Development Account

140. *Decides* to appropriate an additional 5 million dollars for the Development Account;

Income section 3
Services to the public

141. *Takes note* of paragraphs IS3.16 and IS3.17 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[93] and stresses that the United Nations is a non-profit organization;

Limited budgetary discretion

142. *Recalls* section III of its resolution 60/283, and decides to extend its provisions until 30 April 2010, pending a decision at the first part of the resumed sixty-fourth session of the General Assembly.

Annex

Staffing table for the biennium 2010–2011

Category	*Number of posts*
Professional and above	
Deputy Secretary-General	1
Under-Secretary-General	31
Assistant Secretary-General	27
D-2	100
D-1	276
P-5	830
P-4/3	2 742
P-2/1	536
Subtotal	**4 543**
General Service	
Principal level	276
Other level	2 735
Subtotal	**3 011**
Other	
Security Service	320
Local level	2 020
Field Service	147
National Officer	70
Trades and Crafts	170
Subtotal	**2 727**
Total	**10 281**

RESOLUTIONS 64/244 A to C

Adopted at the 68th plenary meeting, on 24 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/548/Add.1, para. 34)

64/244. Programme budget for the biennium 2010–2011

A

BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE BIENNIUM 2010–2011

The General Assembly

Resolves that, for the biennium 2010–2011:

1. Appropriations totalling 5,156,029,100 United States dollars are hereby approved for the following purposes:

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[103] A/64/7/Add.15 and Corr.1 and Add.16. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 7A*.

Section		*Amount (United States dollars)*
	Part I. *Overall policymaking, direction and coordination*	
1.	Overall policymaking, direction and coordination	100 847 600
2.	General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management	676 592 200
	Subtotal	**777 439 800**
	Part II. *Political affairs*	
3.	Political affairs	1 109 991 000
4.	Disarmament	22 299 100
5.	Peacekeeping operations	107 710 900
6.	Peaceful uses of outer space	8 437 400
	Subtotal	**1 248 438 400**
	Part III. *International justice and law*	
7.	International Court of Justice	51 010 200
8.	Legal affairs	45 845 000
	Subtotal	**96 855 200**
	Part IV. *International cooperation for development*	
9.	Economic and social affairs	166 217 100
10.	Least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States	7 422 500
11.	United Nations support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development	12 786 400
12.	Trade and development	140 432 100
13.	International Trade Centre UNCTAD/WTO	30 541 400
14.	Environment	14 406 200
15.	Human settlements	21 510 400
16.	International drug control, crime and terrorism prevention and criminal justice	40 995 600
	Subtotal	**434 311 700**
	Part V. *Regional cooperation for development*	
17.	Economic and social development in Africa	132 697 100
18.	Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific	93 919 300
19.	Economic development in Europe	67 876 000
20.	Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean	111 654 000
21.	Economic and social development in Western Asia	66 602 800
22.	Regular programme of technical cooperation	53 706 900
	Subtotal	**526 456 100**
	Part VI. *Human rights and humanitarian affairs*	
23.	Human rights	142 743 800
24.	International protection, durable solutions and assistance to refugees	80 544 200
25.	Palestine refugees	48 744 700

Section			Amount (United States dollars)
26.	Humanitarian assistance		29 904 900
		Subtotal	**301 937 600**
	Part VII. *Public information*		
27.	Public information		186 707 400
		Subtotal	**186 707 400**
	Part VIII. *Common support services*		
28.	Management and support services		505 808 500
29.	Office of Information and Communications Technology		72 160 600
		Subtotal	**577 969 100**
	Part IX. *Internal oversight*		
30.	Internal oversight		39 438 800
		Subtotal	**39 438 800**
	Part X. *Jointly financed administrative activities and special expenses*		
31.	Jointly financed administrative activities		12 109 800
32.	Special expenses		113 138 400
		Subtotal	**125 248 200**
	Part XI. *Capital expenditures*		
33.	Construction, alteration, improvement and major maintenance		61 265 500
		Subtotal	**61 265 500**
	Part XII. *Safety and security*		
34.	Safety and security		239 288 500
		Subtotal	**239 288 500**
	Part XIII. *Development Account*		
35.	Development Account		23 651 300
		Subtotal	**23 651 300**
	Part XIV. *Staff assessment*		
36.	Staff assessment		517 021 500
		Subtotal	**517 021 500**
		Total	**5 156 029 100**

2. The Secretary-General shall be authorized to transfer credits between sections of the budget with the concurrence of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;

3. In addition to the appropriations approved under paragraph 1 above, an amount of 75,000 dollars shall be appropriated for each year of the biennium 2010–2011 from the accumulated income of the Library Endowment Fund for the purchase of books, periodicals, maps and library equipment and for such other expenses of the library at the Palais des Nations in Geneva as are in accordance with the objects and provisions of the endowment.

B

INCOME ESTIMATES FOR THE BIENNIUM 2010–2011

The General Assembly

Resolves that, for the biennium 2010–2011:

1. Estimates of income other than assessments on Member States totalling 554,171,800 United States dollars are approved as follows:

Income section		*Amount (United States dollars)*
1. Income from staff assessment		521 183 700
2. General income		31 176 500
3. Services to the public		1 811 600
	Total	**554 171 800**

2. The income from staff assessment shall be credited to the Tax Equalization Fund in accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955;

3. Direct expenses of the United Nations Postal Administration, services to visitors, the sale of statistical products, catering operations and related services, garage operations, television services and the sale of publications not provided for under the budget appropriations shall be charged against the income derived from those activities.

C

FINANCING OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE YEAR 2010

The General Assembly

Resolves that, for the year 2010:

1. Budget appropriations consisting of 2,578,014,550 United States dollars, being half of the appropriation of 5,156,029,100 dollars approved for the biennium 2010–2011 by the General Assembly in paragraph 1 of resolution A above, minus 67,745,000 dollars, being the net decrease in revised appropriations for the biennium 2008–2009 approved by the Assembly in its resolutions 63/268 of 7 April 2009, 63/283 of 30 June 2009 and 64/242 A of 24 December 2009, offset by the amount of 45 million dollars not assessed pursuant to section XII of its resolution 63/263 of 24 December 2008, shall be financed in accordance with regulations 3.1 and 3.2 of the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations,[104] as follows:

(*a*) 177,278,350 dollars, consisting of 16,494,050 dollars, being half of the estimated income other than staff assessment income approved for the biennium 2010–2011 under resolution B above, plus 19,686,400 dollars, being the increase in income other than staff assessment income for the biennium 2008–2009 approved by the Assembly in its resolution 64/242 B of 24 December 2009, plus 141,097,900 dollars, being the unutilized surplus of the final appropriations for the biennium 2006–2007 as at 31 December 2007;

(*b*) 2,350,606,850 dollars, being the assessment on Member States in accordance with its resolution 64/248 of 24 December 2009 on the scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations;

(*c*) 27,384,350 dollars, being half of the re-costing amount for the year 2010, which will not be assessed on Member States in 2010, in accordance with paragraph 51 of its resolution 64/243 of 24 December 2009;

2. There shall be set off against the assessment on Member States, in accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund in the total amount of 236,006,150 dollars, consisting of:

(*a*) 260,591,850 dollars, being half of the estimated staff assessment income approved for the biennium 2010–2011 in resolution B above;

(*b*) 2,579,300 dollars, being the increase in income from staff assessment for the biennium 2008–2009 approved by the Assembly in its resolutions 63/268 and 63/283;

(*c*) Offset by 27,165,000 dollars, being the decrease in income from staff assessment for the biennium 2008–2009 approved by the Assembly in its resolution 64/242 B.

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[104] ST/SGB/2003/7.

RESOLUTION 64/245

Adopted at the 68th plenary meeting, on 24 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/548/Add.1, para. 34)

64/245. Special subjects relating to the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2010–2011

The General Assembly,

I

International Trade Centre UNCTAD/WTO

Having considered the programme budget proposals for the International Trade Centre UNCTAD/WTO for the biennium 2010–2011[105] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[106]

1. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[106]

2. *Decides* to approve resources in the amount of 29,459,792 United States dollars (at the exchange rate of 1.2 Swiss francs to 1 dollar) proposed for the biennium 2010–2011 under section 13 (International Trade Centre UNCTAD/WTO) of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2010–2011;

II

Administrative expenses of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund

Recalling its resolutions 55/224 of 23 December 2000, 57/286 of 20 December 2002, 59/269 of 23 December 2004, 61/240 of 22 December 2006, 62/241 of 22 December 2007 and 63/252 of 24 December 2008,

Having considered the report of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board on the administrative expenses of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund,[107] the report of the Secretary-General on the administrative and financial implications arising from the report of the Board[108] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[109]

1. *Concurs* with the recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[109] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

2. *Emphasizes* the importance of providing the information necessary to enable Member States to make well-informed decisions;

3. *Decides* to establish five out of the requested fourteen additional posts in the secretariat of the Fund as follows: one P-4 Risk Management Officer, one P-4 Senior Benefits Officer, two General Service (Principal level) Senior Benefits Assistants and one D-1 Chief Finance Officer;

4. *Approves* expenses, chargeable directly to the Fund, totalling 154,749,100 dollars net for the biennium 2010–2011 and a revised estimate of 109,757,800 dollars net for the biennium 2008–2009 for the administration of the Fund;

5. *Also approves* the additional amount of 1,438,800 dollars above the level of resources set out in section 1 (Overall policymaking, direction and coordination) of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2010–2011 as the United Nations share of the cost of the administrative expenses of the central secretariat of the Fund;

6. *Reaffirms* the need for a strategic approach to the human resources requirements for the Fund;

7. *Urges* the Fund administration to continue to make every possible effort to fill the existing vacancies in the staffing table as soon as feasible;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General, as fiduciary for the investment of the assets of the Fund, to continue to diversify its investments between developed and developing markets, wherever this serves the interests of the participants and the beneficiaries of the Fund, and also requests the Secretary-General to ensure that, under the current volatile market conditions, decisions concerning the investments of the Fund in any country should be implemented very cautiously, fully taking into account the four main criteria for investment, namely, safety, profitability, liquidity and convertibility;

9. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to keep under review the Investment Management Division, in order to ensure that the long-term objectives of the Fund are met and to report back to the General Assembly in the context of the biennial report on the Fund;

III

Request for a subvention to the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research

Recalling section IV of its resolution 60/248 of 23 December 2005,

Having considered the note by the Secretary-General on the request for a subvention to the United Nations Institute for

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[105] See A/64/6 (Sect. 13) and Add.1.

[106] A/64/7/Add.10. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 7A*.

[107] A/64/291.

[108] A/C.5/64/2.

[109] A/64/7/Add.6. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 7A*.

Disarmament Research resulting from the recommendations of the Board of Trustees of the Institute on the work programme of the Institute for 2010–2011[110] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[111]

1. *Takes note* of the note by the Secretary-General;[110]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[111]

3. *Approves* the request for a subvention to the Institute of 558,200 dollars for the biennium 2010–2011 from the regular budget of the United Nations, on the understanding that no additional provision would be required under section 4 (Disarmament) of the programme budget for the biennium 2010–2011;

IV

Revised estimates resulting from resolutions and decisions adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 2009

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on revised estimates resulting from resolutions and decisions adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 2009[112] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[113]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[112]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[113]

V

Revised estimates resulting from resolution S-9/1 adopted by the Human Rights Council at its ninth special session and from resolutions and decisions adopted by the Council at its tenth and eleventh sessions in 2009

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General on revised estimates resulting from resolution S-9/1 adopted by the Human Rights Council at its ninth special session and on revised estimates resulting from resolutions and decisions adopted by the Council at its tenth and eleventh sessions in 2009[114] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[115]

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General;[114]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[115]

VI

Estimates in respect of special political missions, good offices and other political initiatives authorized by the General Assembly and/or the Security Council

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General on the estimates in respect of special political missions, good offices and other political initiatives authorized by the General Assembly and/or the Security Council,[116] the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[117] the letter dated 10 December 2009 from the President of the Assembly to the Chair of the Fifth Committee,[118] the oral statement by the Chair of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions[119] and the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the follow-up audit of the management of special political missions by the Department of Political Affairs,[120]

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General[116] and the letter dated 10 December 2009 from the President of the General Assembly to the Chair of the Fifth Committee;[118]

2. *Also takes note* of the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the follow-up audit of the management of special political missions by the Department of Political Affairs;[120]

3. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions[117] and in the oral

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[110] A/64/270.

[111] A/64/7/Add.7. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 7A*.

[112] A/64/344.

[113] A/64/7/Add.1. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 7A*.

[114] A/63/853 and A/64/353.

[115] A/64/7/Add.3. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 7A*.

[116] A/64/349 and Add.1–5.

[117] A/64/7/Add.13 For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 7A*.

[118] A/C.5/64/10.

[119] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Fifth Committee*, 20th meeting (A/C.5/64/SR.20), and corrigendum.

[120] A/64/294.

statement by the Chair of the Advisory Committee,[119] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

4. *Expresses deep concern* with regard to the recurrent late submission of the reports on the matter under consideration, which hinders their proper examination by the General Assembly, and requests the Secretary-General and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions to submit their reports in a timely manner;

5. *Reaffirms* the need to ensure adequate levels of safety and security for United Nations personnel and associated humanitarian personnel;

6. *Takes note* of paragraphs 20, 73, 74, 79, 83, 89, 94, 111 and 113 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;

7. *Reaffirms* paragraph 12 of General Assembly resolution 63/291 of 30 June 2009, and requests the Secretary-General to continue the current funding arrangements for the activities of the Office of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the Great Lakes Region through 30 June 2010;

8. *Takes note* of paragraph 38 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, and decides to approve 200,000 dollars for consultancy resources for the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Cyprus;

9. *Also takes note* of paragraph 96 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, and decides to approve the fifteen positions for the United Nations Political Office for Somalia as proposed by the Secretary-General;[121]

10. *Further takes note* of paragraph 107 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit updated detailed comprehensive financial requirements for the construction of the United Nations integrated compound in Baghdad to the General Assembly for consideration at the main part of its sixty-fifth session;

12. *Approves* the budgets totalling 569,526,500 dollars for the twenty-six special political missions authorized by the General Assembly and/or the Security Council, which are presented in table 1 of the report of the Secretary-General;[122]

13. *Also approves* a charge totalling 569,526,500 dollars net against the provision for special political missions requested in section 3 (Political affairs) of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2010–2011;

14. *Decides* that the overall provision for special political missions requested in section 3 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2010–2011 should be one billion dollars;

VII

Construction of additional office facilities at the Economic Commission for Africa in Addis Ababa and the United Nations Office at Nairobi

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on construction of additional office facilities at the Economic Commission for Africa in Addis Ababa and the United Nations Office at Nairobi[123] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[124]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[123]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[124]

3. *Recalls* paragraph 4 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and stresses that the use of vacancy management for meeting requirements of additional post-related project costs at the Economic Commission for Africa should not unduly undermine the original purpose of the post;

VIII

Administrative and financial implications of the decisions and recommendations contained in the report of the International Civil Service Commission for 2009

Having considered the statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly on the administrative and financial implications of the decisions and recommendations contained in the report of the International Civil Service Commission for 2009[125] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[126]

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[121] See A/64/349/Add.3.

[122] A/64/349.

[123] A/64/486.

[124] A/64/7/Add.12. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 7A.*

[125] A/64/358.

1. *Recalls* General Assembly resolution 64/231 of 22 December 2009;

2. *Takes note* of the statement submitted by the Secretary-General;[125]

3. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[126]

IX

Effects of changes in rates of exchange and inflation

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the revised estimates resulting from changes in rates of exchange and inflation[127] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[128]

Takes note of the revised estimates arising from recosting due to changes in the rates of exchange and inflation;

X

Contingency fund

Notes that a balance of 31,331,900 dollars remains in the contingency fund;[129]

XI

After-service health insurance: medical and dental reserve funds

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on liabilities and proposed funding for after-service health insurance benefits[130] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[131]

Decides to revert to the issue of the 83.1 million dollars from the medical and dental reserve funds included in the proposal of the Secretary-General on the funding of after-service health insurance liabilities,[130] and requests the Secretary-General to provide the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session with information on the composition of these reserve funds;

XII

Joint Inspection Unit

Approves the gross budget for the Joint Inspection Unit for the biennium 2010–2011 in the amount of 13,075,300 dollars;

XIII

International Civil Service Commission

Also approves the gross budget for the International Civil Service Commission for the biennium 2010–2011 in the amount of 17,755,900 dollars;

XIV

Gross jointly financed budget of the Department of Safety and Security

Further approves the gross jointly financed budget of the Department of Safety and Security for the biennium 2010–2011 in the amount of 242,040,500 dollars, broken down as follows:

(*a*) Field Security Operations: 212,381,300 dollars;

(*b*) Security and Safety Services at the United Nations Office at Vienna: 29,659,200 dollars.

RESOLUTION 64/246

Adopted at the 68th plenary meeting, on 24 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/548/Add.1, para. 34)

64/246. Unforeseen and extraordinary expenses for the biennium 2010–2011

The General Assembly

1. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General, with the prior concurrence of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and subject to the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations[132] and the provisions of paragraph 3 below, to enter into commitments in the biennium 2010–2011 to meet unforeseen and extraordinary expenses arising either during or subsequent to the biennium, provided that the concurrence of the Advisory Committee shall not be necessary for:

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[126] A/64/7/Add.2. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 7A.*

[127] A/64/576.

[128] A/64/7/Add.19. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 7A.*

[129] See A/C.5/64/14.

[130] A/64/366.

[131] A/64/7/Add.4. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 7A.*

[132] ST/SGB/2003/7.

(*a*) Such commitments not exceeding a total of 8 million United States dollars in any one year of the biennium 2010–2011 as the Secretary-General certifies relate to the maintenance of peace and security;

(*b*) Such commitments as the President of the International Court of Justice certifies relate to expenses occasioned by:

(i) The designation of ad hoc judges (Statute of the International Court of Justice, Article 31), not exceeding a total of 200,000 dollars;

(ii) The calling of witnesses and the appointment of experts (Statute, Article 50) and the appointment of assessors (Statute, Article 30), not exceeding a total of 50,000 dollars;

(iii) The maintenance in office for the completion of cases of judges who have not been re-elected (Statute, Article 13, paragraph 3), not exceeding a total of 40,000 dollars;

(iv) The payment of pensions and travel and removal expenses of retiring judges and travel and removal expenses and installation grants of members of the Court (Statute, Article 32, paragraph 7), not exceeding a total of 410,000 dollars;

(v) The work of the Court or its Chambers away from The Hague (Statute, Article 22), not exceeding a total of 25,000 dollars;

(*c*) Such commitments not exceeding a total of 1 million dollars in the biennium 2010–2011 as the Secretary-General certifies are required for security measures pursuant to section XI, paragraph 6, of General Assembly resolution 59/276 of 23 December 2004;

2. *Resolves* that the Secretary-General shall report to the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth and sixty-sixth sessions all commitments made under the provisions of the present resolution, together with the circumstances relating thereto, and shall submit supplementary estimates to the Assembly in respect of such commitments;

3. *Decides* that, for the biennium 2010–2011, if a decision of the Security Council results in the need for the Secretary-General to enter into commitments relating to the maintenance of peace and security in an amount exceeding 10 million dollars in respect of the decision, that matter shall be brought to the General Assembly, or, if the Assembly is suspended or not in session, a resumed or special session of the Assembly shall be convened by the Secretary-General to consider the matter.

RESOLUTION 64/247

Adopted at the 68th plenary meeting, on 24 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/548/Add.1, para. 34)

64/247. Working Capital Fund for the biennium 2010–2011

The General Assembly

Resolves that:

1. The Working Capital Fund shall be established for the biennium 2010–2011 in the amount of 150 million United States dollars;

2. Member States shall make advances to the Working Capital Fund in accordance with the scale of assessments adopted by the General Assembly for contributions of Member States to the budget for the year 2010;

3. There shall be set off against this allocation of advances:

(*a*) Credits to Member States resulting from transfers made in 1959 and 1960 from the surplus account to the Working Capital Fund in an adjusted amount of 1,025,092 dollars;

(*b*) Cash advances paid by Member States to the Working Capital Fund for the biennium 2008–2009 in accordance with General Assembly resolution 62/240 of 22 December 2007;

4. Should the credits and advances paid by any Member State to the Working Capital Fund for the biennium 2008–2009 exceed the amount of that Member State's advance under the provisions of paragraph 2 above, the excess shall be set off against the amount of the contributions payable by the Member State in respect of the biennium 2010–2011;

5. The Secretary-General is authorized to advance from the Working Capital Fund:

(*a*) Such sums as may be necessary to finance budgetary appropriations pending the receipt of contributions; sums so advanced shall be reimbursed as soon as receipts from contributions are available for that purpose;

(*b*) Such sums as may be necessary to finance commitments that may be duly authorized under the provisions of the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly, in particular resolution 64/246 of 24 December 2009 relating to unforeseen and extraordinary expenses; the Secretary-General shall make provision in the budget estimates for reimbursing the Working Capital Fund;

(*c*) Such sums as may be necessary to continue the revolving fund to finance miscellaneous self-liquidating purchases and activities, which, together with net sums outstanding for the same purpose, do not exceed 200,000 dollars; advances in excess of 200,000 dollars may be made with the prior concurrence of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;

(*d*) With the prior concurrence of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, such sums as may be required to finance payments of advance insurance premiums where the period of insurance extends beyond the end of the biennium in which payment is made; the Secretary-General shall make provision in the budget estimates of each biennium, during the life of the related policies, to cover the charges applicable to each biennium;

(*e*) Such sums as may be necessary to enable the Tax Equalization Fund to meet current commitments pending the accumulation of credits; such advances shall be repaid as soon as credits are available in the Tax Equalization Fund;

6. Should the provision in paragraph 1 above prove inadequate to meet the purposes normally related to the Working Capital Fund, the Secretary-General is authorized to utilize, in the biennium 2010–2011, cash from special funds and accounts in his custody, under the conditions approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 1341 (XIII) of 13 December 1958, or the proceeds of loans authorized by the Assembly.

RESOLUTION 64/248

Adopted at the 68th plenary meeting, on 24 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/482/Add.1, para. 9)

64/248. Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions and decisions on the scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations, including its resolutions 55/5 B and C of 23 December 2000, 57/4 B of 20 December 2002, 58/1 B of 23 December 2003 and 61/237 of 22 December 2006,

Reaffirming Article 17 of the Charter of the United Nations and rule 160 of its rules of procedure,

Recalling paragraphs 5 and 6 of its resolution 58/1 B,

Having considered the reports of the Committee on Contributions on its sixty-seventh,[133] sixty-eighth[134] and sixty-ninth[135] sessions as well as the reports of the Secretary-General on multi-year payment plans,[136]

1. *Reaffirms* that the determination of the scale of assessments for the apportionment of expenses of the United Nations shall remain the prerogative of the General Assembly;

2. *Also reaffirms* the fundamental principle that the expenses of the Organization shall be apportioned broadly according to the capacity to pay;

3. *Further reaffirms* the obligation of all Member States to bear the expenses of the United Nations, as apportioned by the General Assembly, in conformity with Article 17, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations;

4. *Reaffirms* that the Committee on Contributions as a technical body is required to prepare the scale of assessments strictly on the basis of reliable, verifiable and comparable data;

5. *Decides* that the scale of assessments for the period 2010–2012 shall be based on the following elements and criteria:

(*a*) Estimates of gross national income;

(*b*) Average statistical base periods of three and six years;

(*c*) Conversion rates based on market exchange rates, except where that would cause excessive fluctuations and distortions in the income of some Member States, when price-adjusted rates of exchange or other appropriate conversion rates should be employed, taking due account of its resolution 46/221 B of 20 December 1991;

(*d*) The debt-burden approach employed in the scale of assessments for the period 2007–2009;

(*e*) A low per capita income adjustment of 80 per cent, with a threshold per capita income limit of the average per capita gross national income of all Member States for the statistical base periods;

(*f*) A minimum assessment rate of 0.001 per cent;

(*g*) A maximum assessment rate for the least developed countries of 0.01 per cent;

(*h*) A maximum assessment rate of 22 per cent;

6. *Resolves* that the scale of assessments for the contributions of Member States to the regular budget of the United Nations for 2010, 2011 and 2012 shall be as follows:

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[133] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 11* (A/62/11).

[134] Ibid., *Sixty-third Session, Supplement No. 11* (A/63/11).

[135] Ibid., *Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 11* (A/64/11).

[136] A/62/70, A/63/68 and A/64/68.

Member State	*Percentage*
Afghanistan	0.004
Albania	0.010
Algeria	0.128
Andorra	0.007
Angola	0.010
Antigua and Barbuda	0.002
Argentina	0.287
Armenia	0.005
Australia	1.933
Austria	0.851
Azerbaijan	0.015
Bahamas	0.018
Bahrain	0.039
Bangladesh	0.010
Barbados	0.008
Belarus	0.042
Belgium	1.075
Belize	0.001
Benin	0.003
Bhutan	0.001
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	0.007
Bosnia and Herzegovina	0.014
Botswana	0.018
Brazil	1.611
Brunei Darussalam	0.028
Bulgaria	0.038
Burkina Faso	0.003
Burundi	0.001
Cambodia	0.003
Cameroon	0.011
Canada	3.207
Cape Verde	0.001
Central African Republic	0.001
Chad	0.002
Chile	0.236
China	3.189
Colombia	0.144
Comoros	0.001
Congo	0.003
Costa Rica	0.034
Côte d'Ivoire	0.010
Croatia	0.097
Cuba	0.071
Cyprus	0.046
Czech Republic	0.349
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	0.007
Democratic Republic of the Congo	0.003
Denmark	0.736
Djibouti	0.001
Dominica	0.001
Dominican Republic	0.042
Ecuador	0.040
Egypt	0.094
El Salvador	0.019
Equatorial Guinea	0.008
Eritrea	0.001
Estonia	0.040
Ethiopia	0.008
Fiji	0.004
Finland	0.566
France	6.123
Gabon	0.014
Gambia	0.001
Georgia	0.006
Germany	8.018
Ghana	0.006
Greece	0.691
Grenada	0.001
Guatemala	0.028
Guinea	0.002
Guinea-Bissau	0.001
Guyana	0.001
Haiti	0.003
Honduras	0.008
Hungary	0.291
Iceland	0.042
India	0.534
Indonesia	0.238
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	0.233
Iraq	0.020
Ireland	0.498
Israel	0.384
Italy	4.999
Jamaica	0.014
Japan	12.530
Jordan	0.014
Kazakhstan	0.076
Kenya	0.012
Kiribati	0.001
Kuwait	0.263
Kyrgyzstan	0.001
Lao People's Democratic Republic	0.001
Latvia	0.038
Lebanon	0.033
Lesotho	0.001
Liberia	0.001

Member State	*Percentage*
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	0.129
Liechtenstein	0.009
Lithuania	0.065
Luxembourg	0.090
Madagascar	0.003
Malawi	0.001
Malaysia	0.253
Maldives	0.001
Mali	0.003
Malta	0.017
Marshall Islands	0.001
Mauritania	0.001
Mauritius	0.011
Mexico	2.356
Micronesia (Federated States of)	0.001
Monaco	0.003
Mongolia	0.002
Montenegro	0.004
Morocco	0.058
Mozambique	0.003
Myanmar	0.006
Namibia	0.008
Nauru	0.001
Nepal	0.006
Netherlands	1.855
New Zealand	0.273
Nicaragua	0.003
Niger	0.002
Nigeria	0.078
Norway	0.871
Oman	0.086
Pakistan	0.082
Palau	0.001
Panama	0.022
Papua New Guinea	0.002
Paraguay	0.007
Peru	0.090
Philippines	0.090
Poland	0.828
Portugal	0.511
Qatar	0.135
Republic of Korea	2.260
Republic of Moldova	0.002
Romania	0.177
Russian Federation	1.602
Rwanda	0.001
Saint Kitts and Nevis	0.001
Saint Lucia	0.001
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	0.001
Samoa	0.001
San Marino	0.003
Sao Tome and Principe	0.001
Saudi Arabia	0.830
Senegal	0.006
Serbia	0.037
Seychelles	0.002
Sierra Leone	0.001
Singapore	0.335
Slovakia	0.142
Slovenia	0.103
Solomon Islands	0.001
Somalia	0.001
South Africa	0.385
Spain	3.177
Sri Lanka	0.019
Sudan	0.010
Suriname	0.003
Swaziland	0.003
Sweden	1.064
Switzerland	1.130
Syrian Arab Republic	0.025
Tajikistan	0.002
Thailand	0.209
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	0.007
Timor-Leste	0.001
Togo	0.001
Tonga	0.001
Trinidad and Tobago	0.044
Tunisia	0.030
Turkey	0.617
Turkmenistan	0.026
Tuvalu	0.001
Uganda	0.006
Ukraine	0.087
United Arab Emirates	0.391
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	6.604
United Republic of Tanzania	0.008
United States of America	22.000
Uruguay	0.027
Uzbekistan	0.010
Vanuatu	0.001
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	0.314
Viet Nam	0.033
Yemen	0.010
Zambia	0.004
Zimbabwe	0.003
Total	**100.000**

7. *Recognizes* that the current methodology can be enhanced bearing in mind the principle of capacity to pay;

8. *Also recognizes* the need to study the methodology in depth and in an effective and expeditious manner, taking into account views expressed by Member States;

9. *Decides* to review, at its earliest opportunity, all elements of the methodology of the scale of assessments with a view to a decision before the end of its sixty-sixth session to take effect, if agreed, for the 2013–2015 scale period;

10. *Requests* the Committee on Contributions, in accordance with its mandate and the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, to make recommendations, in the light of the review referred to in paragraph 9 above, and report thereon to the Assembly at the main part of its sixty-fifth session;

11. *Recognizes* the concern expressed by Member States with regard to conversion rates, and requests the Committee on Contributions to review further criteria to be used to identify cases where market rates of exchange should be replaced with price-adjusted rates of exchange or other appropriate conversion rates for preparing the scale of assessments and to report thereon to the Assembly at its sixty-fifth session in the context of the report to be submitted pursuant to paragraph 10 above;

12. *Resolves* that:

(*a*) Notwithstanding the terms of financial regulation 3.9,[137] the Secretary-General shall be empowered to accept, at his discretion and after consultation with the Chairman of the Committee on Contributions, a portion of the contributions of Member States for the calendar years 2010, 2011 and 2012 in currencies other than the United States dollar;

(*b*) In accordance with financial regulation 3.8,[137] the Holy See, which is not a member of the United Nations but which participates in certain of its activities, shall be called upon to contribute towards the expenses of the Organization for 2010, 2011 and 2012 on the basis of a notional assessment rate of 0.001 per cent, which represents the basis for the calculation of the flat annual fees to be charged to the Holy See in accordance with General Assembly resolution 44/197 B of 21 December 1989;

13. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General on multi-year payment plans[136] and of the related conclusions and recommendations of the Committee on Contributions;[133,134,135]

14. *Reaffirms* paragraph 1 of its resolution 57/4 B;

15. *Takes note with appreciation* of the considerable efforts undertaken by those Member States that fully implemented their multi-year payment plans;

16. *Encourages* Member States in arrears with their assessed contributions to the United Nations to consider submitting multi-year payment plans, and in this context requests the Committee on Contributions to make recommendations with a view to mitigating large scale-to-scale increases for those Member States that have fulfilled their multi-year payment plans and to report thereon to the Assembly at its sixty-fifth session in the context of the report to be submitted pursuant to paragraph 10 above.

RESOLUTION 64/249

Adopted at the 68th plenary meeting, on 24 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/595, para. 6)

64/249. Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of United Nations peacekeeping operations

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 55/235 and 55/236 of 23 December 2000, 58/256 of 23 December 2003 and 61/243 of 22 December 2006,

Recalling also its request to the Secretary-General, in paragraph 15 of resolution 55/235, to update the composition of the levels of contribution of Member States for peacekeeping operations described in the resolution on a triennial basis, in conjunction with the regular budget scale of assessment reviews, in accordance with the criteria established in the resolution, and to report thereon to the General Assembly,

Recalling further its decision, in paragraph 16 of resolution 55/235, to review the structure of levels of contribution for peacekeeping operations after nine years,

Reaffirming the principles set out in its resolutions 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, 3101 (XXVIII) of 11 December 1973 and 55/235,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolutions 55/235 and 55/236,[138]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General[138] and of the updated composition of levels of contribution for peacekeeping operations for the period 2010 to 2012 contained therein;[139]

2. *Reaffirms* the following general principles underlying the financing of United Nations peacekeeping operations:

(*a*) The financing of such operations is the collective responsibility of all States Members of the United Nations and, accordingly, the costs of peacekeeping operations are expenses of the Organization to be borne by Member States in accordance with Article 17, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations;

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[137] See ST/SGB/2003/7.

[138] A/64/220.

[139] Ibid., annex III.

(*b*) In order to meet the expenditures caused by such operations, a different procedure is required from that applied to meet expenditures under the regular budget of the United Nations;

(*c*) Whereas the economically more developed countries are in a position to make relatively larger contributions to peacekeeping operations, the economically less developed countries have a relatively limited capacity to contribute towards peacekeeping operations involving heavy expenditures;

(*d*) The special responsibilities of the permanent members of the Security Council for the maintenance of peace and security should be borne in mind in connection with their contributions to the financing of peace and security operations;

(*e*) Where circumstances warrant, the General Assembly should give special consideration to the situation of any Member States which are victims of, and those which are otherwise involved in, the events or actions leading to a peacekeeping operation;

3. *Also reaffirms* that assessment rates for the financing of peacekeeping operations should be based on the scale of assessments for the regular budget of the United Nations, with an appropriate and transparent system of adjustments based on the levels of Member States, consistent with the principles outlined above;

4. *Further reaffirms* that the permanent members of the Security Council should form a separate level and that, consistent with their special responsibilities for the maintenance of peace and security, they should be assessed at a higher rate than for the regular budget;

5. *Affirms* that all discounts resulting from adjustments to the regular budget assessment rates of Member States in levels C through J shall be borne on a pro rata basis by the permanent members of the Security Council;

6. *Reaffirms* that the least developed countries should be placed in a separate level and receive the highest rate of discount available under the scale;

7. *Also reaffirms* that the statistical data used for setting the rates of assessment for peacekeeping should be the same as the data used in preparing the regular budget scale of assessments, subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

8. *Further reaffirms* the decision to create levels of discount to facilitate automatic, predictable movement between categories on the basis of the per capita gross national income of Member States;

9. *Decides* that, as from 1 January 2010, the rates of assessment for peacekeeping should be based on the ten levels of contribution and parameters set forth in the table below, subject to the provisions of the present resolution:

Level	*Criteria*	*Threshold in United States dollars (2010-2012)*	*Discount (per cent)*
A	Permanent members of the Security Council	Not applicable	Premium
B	All Member States, except those covered below and level A	Not applicable	0
C	As listed in the annex to General Assembly resolution 55/235	Not applicable	7.5
D	Member States with per capita gross national income less than 2 times the average for all Member States (except level A, C and J contributors)	Under 13,416	20
E	Member States with per capita gross national income less than 1.8 times the average for all Member States (except level A, C and J contributors)	Under 12,074	40
F	Member States with per capita gross national income less than 1.6 times the average for all Member States (except level A, C and J contributors)	Under 10,733	60
G	Member States with per capita gross national income less than 1.4 times the average for all Member States (except level A, C and J contributors)	Under 9,391	70
H	Member States with per capita gross national income less than 1.2 times the average for all Member States (except level A, C and J contributors)	Under 8,050	80 (or 70 on a voluntary basis)[a]
I	Member States with per capita gross national income less than the average for all Member States (except level A, C and J contributors)	Under 6,708	80
J	Least developed countries (except level A and C contributors)	Not applicable	90

[a] Member States in level H* have a discount of 70 per cent.

10. *Reaffirms* that Member States will be assigned to the lowest level of contribution with the highest discount for which they are eligible, unless they indicate a decision to move to a higher level;

11. *Also reaffirms* that for purposes of determining the eligibility of Member States for contribution in particular levels during the 2010–2012 scale period, the average per capita gross national income of all Member States will be 6,708 United States dollars and the per capita gross national income of Member States will be the average of 2002 to 2007 figures;

12. *Further reaffirms* that transition periods of two years will apply to countries moving up by two levels, and that transition periods of three years will apply to countries moving up by three or more levels without prejudice to paragraph 10 above;

13. *Reaffirms* that transitions as specified above will occur in equal increments over the transition period as designated above;

14. *Endorses* the updated composition of levels to be applied in adjusting regular budget scale rates to establish Member States' rates of assessment for peacekeeping operations for the period from 2010 to 2012, subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue updating the composition of the levels described above on a triennial basis, in conjunction with the regular budget scale of assessment reviews, in accordance with the criteria established above, and to report thereon to the General Assembly;

16. *Recognizes* the concerns raised by Member States, including Bahrain and the Bahamas, regarding the structure of the levels of the scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of United Nations peacekeeping operations;

17. *Also recognizes* the need to review the structure of the levels of the scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of United Nations peacekeeping operations;

18. *Desires* to address the issues referred to above in an effective and expeditious manner;

19. *Decides* to review the structure of the levels of the scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of United Nations peacekeeping operations with a view to a decision, if agreed, no later than at its sixty-seventh session.

VII. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Sixth Committee

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RESOLUTION 64/3

Adopted at the 21st plenary meeting, on 19 October 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/458 and Corr.1, para. 7)[1]

64/3. Observer status for the International Olympic Committee in the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Wishing to promote cooperation between the United Nations and the International Olympic Committee,

1. *Decides* to invite the International Olympic Committee to participate in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly in the capacity of observer;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary action to implement the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 64/110

Adopted at the 64th plenary meeting, on 16 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/446, para. 10)[2]

64/110. Criminal accountability of United Nations officials and experts on mission

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 59/281 of 29 March 2005, in which it endorsed the recommendation of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations that the Secretary-General make available to the United Nations membership a comprehensive report on the issue of sexual exploitation and abuse in United Nations peacekeeping operations,[3]

Recalling also that the Secretary-General, on 24 March 2005, transmitted to the President of the General Assembly a report of his Adviser concerning sexual exploitation and abuse by United Nations peacekeeping personnel,[4]

Recalling further its resolution 59/300 of 22 June 2005, in which it endorsed the recommendation of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations that a group of legal experts be established to provide advice on the best way to proceed so as to ensure that the original intent of the Charter of the United Nations can be achieved, namely that United Nations staff and experts on mission would never be effectively exempt from the consequences of criminal acts committed at their duty station, nor unjustly penalized without due process,[5]

Recognizing the valuable contribution of United Nations officials and experts on mission towards the fulfilment of the principles and purposes of the Charter,

Reaffirming the need to promote and ensure respect for the principles and rules of international law,

Reaffirming also that the present resolution is without prejudice to the privileges and immunities of United Nations officials and experts on mission and the United Nations under international law,

Reaffirming further the obligation of United Nations officials and experts on mission to respect the national laws of the host State, as well as the right of the host State to exercise, where applicable, its criminal jurisdiction, in accordance with the relevant rules of international law and agreements governing operations of United Nations missions,

Deeply concerned by reports of criminal conduct, and conscious that such conduct, if not investigated and, as appropriate, prosecuted, would create the negative impression that United Nations officials and experts on mission operate with impunity,

Reaffirming the need to ensure that all United Nations officials and experts on mission function in a manner that preserves the image, credibility, impartiality and integrity of the United Nations,

Emphasizing that crimes committed by such persons are unacceptable and have a detrimental effect on the fulfilment of the mandate of the United Nations, in particular with respect to the relations between the United Nations and the local population in the host country,

Conscious of the importance of protecting the rights of victims of criminal conduct, as well as of ensuring adequate protection for witnesses, and recalling the adoption of its resolution 62/214 of 21 December 2007 on the United Nations Comprehensive Strategy on Assistance and Support to Victims of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse by United Nations Staff and Related Personnel,

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[1] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Belarus, Belgium, Brazil, Cameroon, Chile, Costa Rica, Cuba, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Greece, Honduras, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Lithuania, Madagascar, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Slovakia, Spain, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania and United States of America.

[2] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced in the Committee by the representative of Greece on behalf of the Bureau.

[3] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 19* (A/59/19/Rev.1), part one, chap. III, sect. D, para. 56.

[4] See A/59/710.

[5] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 19* (A/59/19/Rev.1), part two, chap. II, sect. N, para. 40 (*a*).

Emphasizing the need to enhance international cooperation to ensure the criminal accountability of United Nations officials and experts on mission,

Recalling its resolution 61/29 of 4 December 2006, by which it established the Ad Hoc Committee on criminal accountability of United Nations officials and experts on mission,

Having considered the report of the Group of Legal Experts established by the Secretary-General pursuant to its resolution 59/300[6] and the report of the Ad Hoc Committee,[7] as well as the note by the Secretariat[8] and the reports of the Secretary-General[9] on criminal accountability of United Nations officials and experts on mission,

Recalling its resolutions 62/63 of 6 December 2007 and 63/119 of 11 December 2008,

Convinced of the need for the United Nations and its Member States to urgently take strong and effective steps to ensure criminal accountability of United Nations officials and experts on mission in the interest of justice,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* for the work done by the Working Group of the Sixth Committee on criminal accountability of United Nations officials and experts on mission;

2. *Strongly urges* States to take all appropriate measures to ensure that crimes by United Nations officials and experts on mission do not go unpunished and that the perpetrators of such crimes are brought to justice, without prejudice to the privileges and immunities of such persons and the United Nations under international law, and in accordance with international human rights standards, including due process;

3. *Strongly urges* all States to consider establishing to the extent that they have not yet done so jurisdiction, particularly over crimes of a serious nature, as known in their existing domestic criminal laws, committed by their nationals while serving as United Nations officials or experts on mission, at least where the conduct as defined in the law of the State establishing jurisdiction also constitutes a crime under the laws of the host State;

4. *Encourages* all States to cooperate with each other and with the United Nations in the exchange of information and in facilitating the conduct of investigations and, as appropriate, prosecution of United Nations officials and experts on mission who are alleged to have committed crimes of a serious nature, in accordance with their domestic laws and applicable United Nations rules and regulations, fully respecting due process rights, as well as to consider strengthening the capacities of their national authorities to investigate and prosecute such crimes;

5. *Also encourages* all States:

(*a*) To afford each other assistance in connection with criminal investigations or criminal or extradition proceedings in respect of crimes of a serious nature committed by United Nations officials and experts on mission, including assistance in obtaining evidence at their disposal, in accordance with their domestic law or any treaties or other arrangements on extradition and mutual legal assistance that may exist between them;

(*b*) In accordance with their domestic law, to explore ways and means of facilitating the possible use of information and material obtained from the United Nations for purposes of criminal proceedings initiated in their territory for the prosecution of crimes of a serious nature committed by United Nations officials and experts on mission, bearing in mind due process considerations;

(*c*) In accordance with their domestic law, to provide effective protection for victims of, witnesses to, and others who provide information in relation to, crimes of a serious nature alleged to have been committed by United Nations officials and experts on mission and to facilitate access by victims to victim assistance programmes, without prejudice to the rights of the alleged offender, including those relating to due process;

(*d*) In accordance with their domestic law, to explore ways and means of responding adequately to requests by host States for support and assistance in order to enhance their capacity to conduct effective investigations in respect of crimes of a serious nature alleged to have been committed by United Nations officials and experts on mission;

6. *Requests* the Secretariat to continue to ensure that requests to Member States seeking personnel to serve as experts on mission make States aware of the expectation that persons who serve in that capacity should meet high standards in their conduct and behaviour and be aware that certain conduct may amount to a crime for which they may be held accountable;

7. *Urges* the Secretary-General to continue to take such other practical measures as are within his authority to strengthen existing training on United Nations standards of conduct, including through predeployment and in-mission induction training for United Nations officials and experts on mission;

8. *Decides*, bearing in mind its resolutions 62/63 and 63/119, that the consideration of the report of the Group of Legal Experts, in particular its legal aspects,[6] taking into account the views of Member States and the information contained in the note by the Secretariat,[8] shall be continued

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[6] See A/60/980.

[7] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-third Session, Supplement No. 54* (A/63/54).

[8] A/62/329.

[9] A/63/260 and Add.1 and A/64/183 and Add.1.

during its sixty-seventh session in the framework of a working group of the Sixth Committee;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring credible allegations that reveal that a crime may have been committed by United Nations officials or experts on mission to the attention of the States against whose nationals such allegations are made and to request from those States an indication of the status of their efforts to investigate and, as appropriate, prosecute crimes of a serious nature, as well as the types of appropriate assistance that States may wish to receive from the Secretariat for the purposes of such investigations and prosecutions;

10. *Requests* the United Nations, when its investigations into allegations suggest that crimes of a serious nature may have been committed by United Nations officials or experts on mission, to consider any appropriate measures that may facilitate the possible use of information and material for purposes of criminal proceedings initiated by States, bearing in mind due process considerations;

11. *Encourages* the United Nations, when allegations against United Nations officials or experts on mission are determined by a United Nations administrative investigation to be unfounded, to take appropriate measures, in the interests of the Organization, to restore the credibility and reputation of such officials and experts on mission;

12. *Urges* the United Nations to continue cooperating with States exercising jurisdiction in order to provide them, within the framework of the relevant rules of international law and agreements governing activities of the United Nations, with information and material for purposes of criminal proceedings initiated by States;

13. *Emphasizes* that the United Nations, in accordance with the applicable rules of the Organization, should take no action that would retaliate against or intimidate United Nations officials and experts on mission who report allegations concerning crimes of a serious nature committed by United Nations officials and experts on mission;

14. *Takes note with appreciation* of the information provided by Governments in response to its resolutions 62/63 and 63/119, and urges Governments to continue taking the measures necessary for the implementation of those resolutions, including their provisions addressing the establishment of jurisdiction, particularly over crimes of a serious nature, as known in their existing domestic criminal laws, committed by their nationals while serving as United Nations officials or experts on mission, as well as cooperation among States;

15. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution, in particular with respect to paragraphs 3, 5 and 9 above, as well as any practical problems in its implementation, on the basis of information received from Governments and the Secretariat;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include in his report information on the number and types of credible allegations and any actions taken by the United Nations and its Member States regarding crimes of a serious nature committed by United Nations officials and experts on mission;

17. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to include in his report information on how the United Nations might support Member States, at their request, in the development of domestic criminal law relevant to crimes of a serious nature committed by their nationals while serving as United Nations officials or experts on mission;

18. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled "Criminal accountability of United Nations officials and experts on mission".

RESOLUTION 64/111

Adopted at the 64th plenary meeting, on 16 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/447, para. 9)[10]

64/111. Report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on the work of its forty-second session

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 2205 (XXI) of 17 December 1966, by which it established the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law with a mandate to further the progressive harmonization and unification of the law of international trade and in that respect to bear in mind the interests of all peoples, in particular those of developing countries, in the extensive development of international trade,

Reaffirming its belief that the progressive modernization and harmonization of international trade law, in reducing or removing legal obstacles to the flow of international trade, especially those affecting developing countries, would contribute significantly to universal economic cooperation among all States on a basis of equality, equity, common interest and respect for the rule of law, to the elimination of discrimination in international trade and, thereby, to peace, stability and the well-being of all peoples,

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[10] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belarus, Benin, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, China, Congo, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Paraguay, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

Having considered the report of the Commission on the work of its forty-second session,[11]

Reiterating its concern that activities undertaken by other bodies in the field of international trade law without adequate coordination with the Commission might lead to undesirable duplication of efforts and would not be in keeping with the aim of promoting efficiency, consistency and coherence in the unification and harmonization of international trade law,

Reaffirming the mandate of the Commission, as the core legal body within the United Nations system in the field of international trade law, to coordinate legal activities in this field, in particular to avoid duplication of efforts, including among organizations formulating rules of international trade, and to promote efficiency, consistency and coherence in the modernization and harmonization of international trade law, and to continue, through its secretariat, to maintain close cooperation with other international organs and organizations, including regional organizations, active in the field of international trade law,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on the work of its forty-second session;[11]

2. *Commends* the Commission for the completion and adoption of its Practice Guide on Cross-Border Insolvency Cooperation;[12]

3. *Welcomes* the progress made by the Commission in its work on a revision of its Model Law on Procurement of Goods, Construction and Services[13] through the consideration of chapter I of the draft revised model law,[14] and encourages the Commission to complete its work on the revised model law as soon as possible;

4. *Also welcomes* the progress made by the Commission in its work on a revision of its Arbitration Rules,[15] on the preparation of a draft legislative guide on the treatment of enterprise groups in insolvency and on the preparation of a supplement to its Legislative Guide on Secured Transactions[16] dealing with security rights in intellectual property, and endorses the decision of the Commission to undertake further work in the area of arbitration, electronic commerce, transport law and commercial fraud and to consider at its forty-third session proposals for future work in the areas of insolvency and security interests, as set out in its report;

5. *Further welcomes* the decision of the Commission to request the Secretariat to hold, resources permitting, an international colloquium on electronic commerce and another international colloquium on security interests;[17]

6. *Notes with appreciation* the decision of the Commission with regard to the publication of its Legislative Guide on Secured Transactions, of a commentary on the United Nations Convention on the Assignment of Receivables in International Trade [18] and of a text discussing the interrelationship of various texts on security interests prepared by the Commission, the International Institute for the Unification of Private Law and the Hague Conference on Private International Law;[19]

7. *Also notes with appreciation* the decision of the Commission to commend the use of the 2007 revision of the Uniform Customs and Practice for Documentary Credits, published by the International Chamber of Commerce, as appropriate, in transactions involving the establishment of a documentary credit;[20]

8. *Welcomes* the progress made in the ongoing project of the Commission on monitoring the implementation of the Convention on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards, done at New York on 10 June 1958,[21] and the preparation of a draft guide to enactment of the Convention to promote a uniform interpretation and application of the Convention;[22]

9. *Endorses* the efforts and initiatives of the Commission, as the core legal body within the United Nations system in the field of international trade law, aimed at increasing coordination of, and cooperation on, legal activities of international and regional organizations active in the field of international trade law, as well as promoting the rule of law at the national and international levels in this field, and in this regard appeals to relevant international and regional organizations to coordinate their legal activities with those of the Commission, to avoid duplication of efforts and to promote

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[11] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 17* (A/64/17).

[12] Ibid., para. 24.

[13] Ibid., *Forty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 17* and corrigendum (A/49/17 and Corr.1), annex I.

[14] Ibid., *Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 17* (A/64/17), para. 283.

[15] United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.V.6.

[16] Adopted by the Commission at its resumed fortieth session. See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 17* (A/62/17), part two, para. 100.

[17] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 17* (A/64/17), paras. 319 and 343.

[18] Resolution 56/81, annex.

[19] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 17* (A/64/17), paras. 315 and 321.

[20] Ibid., para. 357.

[21] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 330, No. 4739.

[22] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 17* (A/64/17), para. 360.

efficiency, consistency and coherence in the modernization and harmonization of international trade law;

10. *Reaffirms* the importance, in particular for developing countries, of the work of the Commission concerned with technical assistance and cooperation in the field of international trade law reform and development, and in this connection:

(*a*) Welcomes the initiatives of the Commission towards expanding, through its secretariat, its technical assistance and cooperation programme, and in that respect encourages the Secretary-General to seek partnerships with State and non State actors to increase awareness about the work of the Commission and to facilitate the effective implementation of legal standards resulting from its work;

(*b*) Expresses its appreciation to the Commission for carrying out technical assistance and cooperation activities, including at the country, subregional and regional levels, and for providing assistance with legislative drafting in the field of international trade law, and draws the attention of the Secretary-General to the limited resources that are made available in this field;

(*c*) Expresses its appreciation to the Governments whose contributions enabled the technical assistance and cooperation activities to take place, and appeals to Governments, the relevant bodies of the United Nations system, organizations, institutions and individuals to make voluntary contributions to the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law Trust Fund for Symposia and, where appropriate, to the financing of special projects and otherwise to assist the secretariat of the Commission in carrying out technical assistance activities, in particular in developing countries;

(*d*) Reiterates its appeal to the United Nations Development Programme and other bodies responsible for development assistance, such as the World Bank and regional development banks, as well as to Governments in their bilateral aid programmes, to support the technical assistance programme of the Commission and to cooperate and coordinate their activities with those of the Commission, in the light of the relevance and importance of the work and programmes of the Commission for promotion of the rule of law at the national and international levels and for the implementation of the United Nations development agenda, including the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;

(*e*) Notes the request by the Commission that the Secretariat explore the possibility of establishing a presence in regions or specific countries by, for example, having dedicated staff in United Nations field offices, collaborating with such existing field offices or establishing Commission country offices with a view to facilitating the provision of technical assistance with respect to the use and adoption of Commission texts;[23]

11. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Government whose contribution to the trust fund established to provide travel assistance to developing countries that are members of the Commission, at their request and in consultation with the Secretary-General,[24] enabled renewal of the provision of that assistance, and appeals to Governments, the relevant bodies of the United Nations system, organizations, institutions and individuals to make voluntary contributions to the trust fund in order to increase expert representation from developing countries at sessions of the Commission and its working groups, necessary to build local expertise and capacities in the field of international trade law in those countries to facilitate the development of international trade and the promotion of foreign investment;

12. *Decides*, in order to ensure full participation by all Member States in the sessions of the Commission and its working groups, to continue, in the competent Main Committee during the sixty-fourth session of the General Assembly, its consideration of granting travel assistance to the least developed countries that are members of the Commission, at their request and in consultation with the Secretary-General;

13. *Welcomes*, in the light of the recent increase in membership of the Commission and the number of topics being dealt with by the Commission, the comprehensive review undertaken by the Commission of its working methods, which was started at its fortieth session, with the aim of continuing consideration of the matter during its next sessions and with a view to ensuring the high quality of the work of the Commission and international acceptability of its instruments,[25] and in this regard recalls its previous resolutions related to this matter;

14. *Also welcomes* the discussion by the Commission of its role in promoting the rule of law at the national and international levels, in particular the conviction of the Commission that the implementation and effective use of modern private law standards on international trade are essential for advancing good governance, sustained economic development and the eradication of poverty and hunger and that promotion of the rule of law in commercial relations should be an integral part of the broader agenda of the United Nations to promote the rule of law at the national and international levels, including through the Rule of Law Coordination and Resource Group, supported by the Rule of Law Unit in the Executive Office of the Secretary-General, and the fact that the Commission is looking forward to being part of strengthened

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[23] Ibid., para. 363.

[24] See resolution 48/32, para. 5.

[25] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-third Session, Supplement No. 17* and corrigendum (A/63/17 and Corr.1), paras. 373–381.

and coordinated activities of the Organization and sees its role, in particular, as providing assistance to States that seek to promote the rule of law in the area of international and domestic trade and investment;[26]

15. *Further welcomes* the consideration by the Commission of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2010–2011 and its review of the proposed biennial programme plan for the progressive harmonization, modernization and unification of the law of international trade (subprogramme 5), and takes note that, while the Commission noted with satisfaction that the objectives and expected accomplishments of the Secretariat and the overall strategy for subprogramme 5 were in line with its general policy, the Commission also expressed concern that the resources allotted to the Secretariat under subprogramme 5 were insufficient for it to meet, in particular, the increased demand for technical assistance from developing countries and countries with economies in transition to meet their urgent need for law reform in the field of commercial law and urged the Secretary-General to take steps to ensure that the comparatively small amount of additional resources necessary to meet a demand so crucial to development are made available promptly;[27]

16. *Recalls* its resolutions on partnerships between the United Nations and non-State actors, in particular the private sector,[28] and its resolutions in which it encouraged the Commission to further explore different approaches to the use of partnerships with non-State actors in the implementation of its mandate, in particular in the area of technical assistance, in accordance with the applicable principles and guidelines and in cooperation and coordination with other relevant offices of the Secretariat, including the Global Compact Office;[29]

17. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General, in conformity with its resolutions on documentation-related matters,[30] which, in particular, emphasize that any reduction in the length of documents should not adversely affect either the quality of the presentation or the substance of the documents, to bear in mind the particular characteristics of the mandate and work of the Commission in implementing page limits with respect to the documentation of the Commission;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue providing summary records of the meetings of the Commission, including committees of the whole established by the Commission for the duration of its annual session, relating to the formulation of normative texts;

19. *Recalls* its resolution approving the establishment of the *Yearbook of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law*, with the aim of making the work of the Commission more widely known and readily available,[31] expresses its concern regarding the timeliness of the publication of the *Yearbook*, and requests the Secretary-General to explore options to facilitate the timely publication of the *Yearbook*;

20. *Stresses* the importance of bringing into effect the conventions emanating from the work of the Commission for the global unification and harmonization of international trade law, and to this end urges States that have not yet done so to consider signing, ratifying or acceding to those conventions;

21. *Welcomes* the preparation of digests of case law relating to the texts of the Commission, such as a digest of case law relating to the United Nations Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods[32] and a digest of case law relating to the Model Law on International Commercial Arbitration of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law,[33] with the aim of assisting in the dissemination of information on those texts and promoting their use, enactment and uniform interpretation.

RESOLUTION 64/112

Adopted at the 64th plenary meeting, on 16 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/447, para. 9)[34]

64/112. Practice Guide on Cross-Border Insolvency Cooperation of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law

The General Assembly,

Noting that increased trade and investment leads to a greater incidence of cases where business is conducted on a global basis and where enterprises and individuals have assets and interests in more than one State,

Noting also that, where the subjects of insolvency proceedings are debtors with assets in more than one State or are members of an enterprise group with business operations and assets in more than one State, there is generally an urgent need for cross-border cooperation in, and coordination of, the supervision and administration of the assets and affairs of those debtors,

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[26] Ibid., para. 386.

[27] Ibid., para. 391.

[28] Resolutions 55/215, 56/76, 58/129 and 60/215.

[29] Resolutions 59/39, 60/20 and 61/32.

[30] Resolutions 52/214, sect. B, 57/283 B, sect. III, and 58/250, sect. III.

[31] Resolution 2502 (XXIV), para. 7.

[32] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1489, No. 25567.

[33] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fortieth Session, Supplement No. 17* (A/40/17), annex I.

[34] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced in the Committee by the representative of Austria on behalf of the Bureau.

Recognizing that cooperation and coordination in cross-border insolvency cases has the potential to significantly improve the chances for rescuing financially troubled individuals and enterprise groups,

Acknowledging that familiarity with cross-border cooperation and coordination and the means by which it might be implemented in practice is not widespread and that the availability of readily accessible information on current practice with respect to cross-border coordination and cooperation has the potential to facilitate and promote that cooperation and coordination and to avoid unnecessary delay and costs,

Noting with satisfaction the completion and the adoption on 1 July 2009 of the Practice Guide on Cross-Border Insolvency Cooperation by the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law at its forty-second session,[35]

Noting that the preparation of the Practice Guide was the subject of deliberations and consultation with Governments, judges and other professionals active in the field of cross-border insolvency,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law for the completion and adoption of its Practice Guide on Cross-Border Insolvency Cooperation;[35]

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to publish, including electronically, the text of the Practice Guide and to transmit it to Governments with the request that the text be made available to relevant authorities so that it becomes widely known and available;

3. *Recommends* that the Practice Guide be given due consideration, as appropriate, by judges, insolvency practitioners and other stakeholders involved in cross-border insolvency proceedings;

4. *Recommends also* that all States continue to consider implementation of the Model Law on Cross-Border Insolvency of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law.[36]

RESOLUTION 64/113

Adopted at the 64th plenary meeting, on 16 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/448, para. 8)[37]

64/113. United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 2099 (XX) of 20 December 1965, in which it established the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law to contribute towards a better knowledge of international law as a means of strengthening international peace and security and of promoting friendly relations and cooperation among States,

Recognizing that the Programme of Assistance is a core activity of the United Nations and that the Programme has provided the foundation for the efforts of the United Nations to promote a better knowledge of international law for more than four decades,

Recognizing also that the increasing demand for international law training and dissemination activities creates new challenges for the Programme of Assistance,

Taking note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Programme of Assistance[38] and the views of the Advisory Committee on the Programme of Assistance, which are contained in that report,

Considering that international law should occupy an appropriate place in the teaching of legal disciplines at all universities,

Convinced that States, international and regional organizations, universities and institutions should be encouraged to give further support to the Programme of Assistance and increase their activities to promote the teaching, study, dissemination and wider appreciation of international law, in particular those activities which are of special benefit to persons from developing countries,

Reaffirming that in the conduct of the Programme of Assistance it would be desirable to use as far as possible the resources and facilities made available by Member States, international and regional organizations, universities, institutions and others,

Reaffirming also the hope that, in appointing lecturers for the seminars to be held within the framework of the fellowship programmes in international law, account would be taken of the need to secure the representation of major legal systems and balance among various geographical regions,

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[35] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 17* (A/64/17), chap. III.

[36] Resolution 52/158, annex.

[37] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced in the Committee by the representative of Ghana on behalf of the Bureau.

[38] A/64/495.

1. *Approves* the guidelines and recommendations contained in section III of the report of the Secretary-General,[38] in particular those designed to achieve the best possible results in the administration of the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law within a policy of maximum financial restraint;

2. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General to carry out in 2010 and 2011 the activities specified in his report, including the provision of:

(*a*) A number of fellowships to be determined in the light of the overall resources for the Programme of Assistance and to be awarded to qualified candidates from developing countries to attend the International Law Fellowship Programme in The Hague in 2010 and 2011;

(*b*) A number of fellowships to be determined in the light of the overall resources for the Programme of Assistance and to be awarded to qualified candidates from developing countries to attend regional courses in international law in 2010 and 2011;

and to finance the above activities from provisions in the regular budget, when appropriate, as well as from voluntary financial contributions for these fellowships, which would be received as a result of the requests set out in paragraphs 19 to 21 below;

3. *Also authorizes* the Secretary-General to award a minimum of one scholarship in both 2010 and 2011 under the Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe Memorial Fellowship on the Law of the Sea, subject to the availability of new voluntary contributions made specifically for this fellowship;

4. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for his efforts to strengthen, expand and enhance the international law training and dissemination activities within the framework of the Programme of Assistance in 2008 and 2009;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to consider admitting, for participation in the various components of the Programme of Assistance, candidates from countries willing to bear the entire cost of such participation;

6. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the necessary resources to the programme budget for the Programme of Assistance for the next and the future bienniums with a view to ensuring the continued effectiveness of the Programme of Assistance;

7. *Recognizes* the importance of the United Nations legal publications prepared by the Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat, and strongly encourages their continued publication;

8. *Welcomes* the efforts undertaken by the Office of Legal Affairs to bring up to date the United Nations legal publications, and, in particular, commends the Codification Division for its desktop publishing initiative, which has greatly enhanced the timely issuance of its legal publications;

9. *Welcomes* the creation by the Codification Division of the new websites for the *United Nations Juridical Yearbook*,[39] the United Nations diplomatic conferences,[40] and the United Nations legal publications portal, as well as the expansion of the website on the *Summaries of Judgments, Advisory Opinions and Orders of the International Court of Justice*;[41]

10. *Encourages* the Office of Legal Affairs to continue to maintain and expand its websites listed in annex I to the report of the Secretary-General[38] as an invaluable tool for the dissemination of international law materials as well as for advanced legal research;

11. *Recognizes* the importance of the United Nations Audiovisual Library of International Law as a major contribution to the teaching and dissemination of international law around the world, and urges States to make voluntary contributions to enable the Codification Division to continue and further develop the Library;

12. *Commends* the Codification Division on the 2009 Best Website Award granted to the United Nations Audiovisual Library of International Law by the International Association of Law Libraries at its annual meeting, held in Turkey in October 2009;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide relevant information to the Advisory Committee on the Programme of Assistance, to facilitate its consideration of the matter referred to in paragraph 89 of his report;[38]

14. *Encourages* the use of the internship programme for the preparation of materials for the United Nations Audiovisual Library of International Law;

15. *Welcomes* the training and technical assistance activities in international law undertaken by the Office of Legal Affairs in the framework of the Programme of Assistance, as described in the report of the Secretary-General, and encourages the continuation of such activities within available resources;

16. *Expresses its appreciation* to the United Nations Institute for Training and Research for its participation in the Programme of Assistance through the activities described in the report of the Secretary-General;

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[39] www.un.org/law/UNJuridicalYearbook/index.htm.

[40] http://untreaty.un.org/cod/diplomaticconferences/index.html

[41] www.un.org/law/UNlegalpublications/index.html.

17. *Also expresses its appreciation* to The Hague Academy of International Law for the valuable contribution it continues to make to the Programme of Assistance, which has enabled candidates under the International Law Fellowship Programme to attend and participate in the Fellowship Programme in conjunction with the Academy courses;

18. *Notes with appreciation* the contributions of The Hague Academy to the teaching, study, dissemination and wider appreciation of international law, and calls upon Member States and interested organizations to give favourable consideration to the appeal of the Academy for a continuation of support and a possible increase in their financial contributions, to enable the Academy to carry out its activities, particularly those relating to the summer courses, regional courses and programmes of the Centre for Studies and Research in International Law and International Relations;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to publicize the Programme of Assistance and periodically to invite Member States, universities, philanthropic foundations and other interested national and international institutions and organizations, as well as individuals, to make voluntary contributions towards the financing of the Programme of Assistance or otherwise to assist in its implementation and possible expansion;

20. *Reiterates its request* to Member States and to interested organizations and individuals to make voluntary contributions, inter alia, for the International Law Fellowship Programme and the United Nations Audiovisual Library of International Law, and expresses its appreciation to those Member States, institutions and individuals that have made voluntary contributions for this purpose;

21. *Urges* in particular all Governments to make voluntary contributions for regional courses in international law, as an important complement to the International Law Fellowship Programme, organized by the Codification Division of the Office of Legal Affairs, thus alleviating the burden on prospective host countries and making it possible to resume the organization of regional courses;

22. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session on the implementation of the Programme of Assistance during 2010 and, following consultations with the Advisory Committee on the Programme of Assistance, to submit recommendations regarding the execution of the Programme of Assistance in subsequent years;

23. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled "United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law".

RESOLUTION 64/114

Adopted at the 64th plenary meeting, on 16 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/449, para. 8)[42]

64/114. Report of the International Law Commission on the work of its sixty-first session

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the International Law Commission on the work of its sixty-first session,[43]

Emphasizing the importance of furthering the progressive development and codification of international law as a means of implementing the purposes and principles set forth in the Charter of the United Nations and in the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,[44]

Recognizing the desirability of referring legal and drafting questions to the Sixth Committee, including topics that might be submitted to the International Law Commission for closer examination, and of enabling the Sixth Committee and the Commission to enhance further their contribution to the progressive development and codification of international law,

Recalling the need to keep under review those topics of international law which, given their new or renewed interest for the international community, may be suitable for the progressive development and codification of international law and therefore may be included in the future programme of work of the International Law Commission,

Reaffirming the importance to the successful work of the International Law Commission of the information provided by Member States concerning their views and practice,

Recognizing the importance of the work of the special rapporteurs of the International Law Commission,

Recalling the role of Member States in submitting proposals for the consideration of the International Law Commission,

Welcoming the holding of the International Law Seminar, and noting with appreciation the voluntary contributions made to the United Nations Trust Fund for the International Law Seminar,

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[42] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced in the Committee by the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran on behalf of the Bureau.

[43] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 10* (A/64/10).

[44] Resolution 2625 (XXV), annex.

Acknowledging the importance of facilitating the timely publication of the *Yearbook of the International Law Commission* and of eliminating the backlog,

Stressing the usefulness of focusing and structuring the debate on the report of the International Law Commission in the Sixth Committee in such a manner that conditions are provided for concentrated attention to each of the main topics dealt with in the report and for discussions on specific topics,

Wishing to enhance further, in the context of the revitalization of the debate on the report of the International Law Commission, the interaction between the Sixth Committee as a body of governmental representatives and the Commission as a body of independent legal experts, with a view to improving the dialogue between the two bodies,

Welcoming initiatives to hold interactive debates, panel discussions and question time in the Sixth Committee, as envisaged in resolution 58/316 of 1 July 2004 on further measures for the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the International Law Commission on the work of its sixty-first session,[45] and recommends that the Commission continue its work on the topics in its current programme, taking into account the comments and observations of Governments, whether submitted in writing or expressed orally in debates in the Sixth Committee;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the International Law Commission for the work accomplished at its sixty-first session, in particular for the completion, on first reading, of the draft articles on the topic "Responsibility of international organizations";

3. *Draws the attention* of Governments to the importance for the International Law Commission of having their views on the various aspects of the topics on the agenda of the Commission, in particular on all the specific issues identified in chapter III of its report, regarding:

(*a*) Responsibility of international organizations;

(*b*) Expulsion of aliens;

(*c*) Shared natural resources;

4. *Invites* Governments, within the context of paragraph 3 above, to provide information to the International Law Commission regarding practice in respect of the topic "Expulsion of aliens";

5. *Draws the attention* of Governments to the importance for the International Law Commission of having their comments and observations by 1 January 2011 on the draft articles and commentaries on the topic "Responsibility of international organizations" adopted on first reading by the Commission at its sixty-first session;[45]

6. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on assistance to special rapporteurs of the International Law Commission[46] and of paragraphs 240 to 242 of the report of the International Law Commission, and requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session options regarding additional support for the work of special rapporteurs;

7. *Invites* the International Law Commission to continue taking measures to enhance its efficiency and productivity and to consider making proposals to that end;

8. *Encourages* the International Law Commission to continue taking cost-saving measures at its future sessions, without prejudice to the efficiency and effectiveness of its work;

9. *Takes note* of paragraph 244 of the report of the International Law Commission, and decides that the next session of the Commission shall be held at the United Nations Office at Geneva from 3 May to 4 June and from 5 July to 6 August 2010;

10. *Welcomes* the enhanced dialogue between the International Law Commission and the Sixth Committee at the sixty-fourth session of the General Assembly, stresses the desirability of further enhancing the dialogue between the two bodies, and in this context encourages, inter alia, the continued practice of informal consultations in the form of discussions between the members of the Sixth Committee and the members of the Commission attending the sixty-fifth session of the Assembly;

11. *Encourages* delegations, during the debate on the report of the International Law Commission, to adhere as far as possible to the structured work programme agreed to by the Sixth Committee and to consider presenting concise and focused statements;

12. *Encourages* Member States to consider being represented at the level of legal adviser during the first week in which the report of the International Law Commission is discussed in the Sixth Committee (International Law Week) to enable high-level discussions on issues of international law;

13. *Requests* the International Law Commission to continue to pay special attention to indicating in its annual report, for each topic, any specific issues on which expressions of views by Governments, either in the Sixth Committee or in written form, would be of particular interest in providing effective guidance for the Commission in its further work;

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[45] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 10* (A/64/10), chap. IV, sect. C.

[46] A/64/283.

14. *Takes note* of paragraphs 243 and 245 to 249 of the report of the International Law Commission with regard to cooperation and interaction with other bodies, and encourages the Commission to continue the implementation of article 16, paragraph (*e*), article 25 and article 26, paragraphs 1 and 2, of its statute in order to further strengthen cooperation between the Commission and other bodies concerned with international law, having in mind the usefulness of such cooperation;

15. *Notes* that consulting with national organizations and individual experts concerned with international law may assist Governments in considering whether to make comments and observations on drafts submitted by the International Law Commission and in formulating their comments and observations;

16. *Reaffirms* its previous decisions concerning the indispensable role of the Codification Division of the Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat in providing assistance to the International Law Commission, including in the preparation of memorandums and studies on topics on the agenda of the Commission;

17. *Approves* the conclusions reached by the International Law Commission in paragraph 232 of its report, and reaffirms its previous decisions concerning the documentation and summary records of the Commission;[47]

18. *Takes note* of paragraph 233 of the report of the International Law Commission, and stresses the need to expedite the preparation of the summary records of the Commission;

19. *Also takes note* of paragraph 234 of the report of the International Law Commission and, without prejudice to the importance of ensuring necessary allocations in the regular budget, acknowledges the establishment by the Secretary-General of a trust fund to accept voluntary contributions so as to address the backlog relating to the *Yearbook of the International Law Commission*, and invites voluntary contributions to that end;

20. *Welcomes* the continuous efforts of the Codification Division to maintain and improve the website relating to the work of the International Law Commission;[48]

21. *Expresses the hope* that the International Law Seminar will continue to be held in connection with the sessions of the International Law Commission and that an increasing number of participants, in particular from developing countries, will be given the opportunity to attend the Seminar, and appeals to States to continue to make urgently needed voluntary contributions to the United Nations Trust Fund for the International Law Seminar;

22. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the International Law Seminar with adequate services, including interpretation, as required, and encourages him to continue considering ways to improve the structure and content of the Seminar;

23. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to forward to the International Law Commission, for its attention, the records of the debate on the report of the Commission at the sixty-fourth session of the General Assembly, together with such written statements as delegations may circulate in conjunction with their oral statements, and to prepare and distribute a topical summary of the debate, following established practice;

24. *Requests* the Secretariat to circulate to States, as soon as possible after the conclusion of the session of the International Law Commission, chapter II of its report containing a summary of the work of that session, chapter III containing the specific issues on which the views of Governments would be of particular interest to the Commission and the draft articles adopted on either first or second reading by the Commission;

25. *Encourages* the International Law Commission to continue considering ways in which specific issues on which the views of Governments would be of particular interest to the Commission could be framed so as to help Governments to have a better appreciation of the issues on which responses are required;

26. *Recommends* that the debate on the report of the International Law Commission at the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly commence on 25 October 2010.

RESOLUTION 64/115

Adopted at the 64th plenary meeting, on 16 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/450, para. 10)[49]

64/115. Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 3499 (XXX) of 15 December 1975, by which it established the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization, and its relevant resolutions adopted at subsequent sessions,

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[47] See resolutions 32/151, para. 10, and 37/111, para. 5, and all subsequent resolutions on the annual reports of the International Law Commission to the General Assembly.

[48] www.un.org/law/ilc.

[49] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced in the Committee by the representative of Egypt on behalf of the Bureau.

Recalling also its resolution 47/233 of 17 August 1993 on the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly,

Recalling further its resolution 47/62 of 11 December 1992 on the question of equitable representation on and increase in the membership of the Security Council,

Taking note of the report of the Open-ended Working Group on the Question of Equitable Representation on and Increase in the Membership of the Security Council and Other Matters related to the Security Council,[50]

Recalling the elements relevant to the work of the Special Committee contained in its resolution 47/120 B of 20 September 1993,

Recalling also its resolution 51/241 of 31 July 1997 on the strengthening of the United Nations system and its resolution 51/242 of 15 September 1997, entitled "Supplement to an Agenda for Peace", by which it adopted the texts on coordination and the question of sanctions imposed by the United Nations, which are annexed to that resolution,

Concerned about the special economic problems confronting certain States arising from the carrying out of preventive or enforcement measures taken by the Security Council against other States, and taking into account the obligation of Members of the United Nations under Article 49 of the Charter of the United Nations to join in affording mutual assistance in carrying out the measures decided upon by the Council,

Recalling the right of third States confronted with special economic problems of that nature to consult the Security Council with regard to a solution of those problems, in accordance with Article 50 of the Charter,

Recalling also that the International Court of Justice is the principal judicial organ of the United Nations, and reaffirming its authority and independence,

Mindful of the adoption of the revised working papers on the working methods of the Special Committee,[51]

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the *Repertory of Practice of United Nations Organs* and the *Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council*,[52]

Taking note also of paragraphs 106 to 110, 176 and 177 of the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[53]

Mindful of the decision of the Special Committee in which it expressed its readiness to engage, as appropriate, in the implementation of any decisions that might be taken at the Hign-level Plenary Meeting of the sixtieth session of the General Assembly in September 2005 that concerned the Charter and any amendments thereto,[54]

Recalling the provisions of its resolutions 50/51 of 11 December 1995, 51/208 of 17 December 1996, 52/162 of 15 December 1997, 53/107 of 8 December 1998, 54/107 of 9 December 1999, 55/157 of 12 December 2000, 56/87 of 12 December 2001, 57/25 of 19 November 2002, 58/80 of 9 December 2003 and 59/45 of 2 December 2004,

Recalling also its resolution 63/127 of 11 December 2008,

Having considered the report of the Special Committee on the work of its session held in 2009,[55]

Noting with appreciation the work done by the Special Committee to encourage States to focus on the need to prevent and to settle peacefully their disputes which are likely to endanger the maintenance of international peace and security,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization;[55]

2. *Takes note also* of the document entitled "Introduction and implementation of sanctions imposed by the United Nations" as set out in the annex to the present resolution;

3. *Decides* that the Special Committee shall hold its next session from 1 to 9 March 2010;

4. *Requests* the Special Committee, at its session in 2010, in accordance with paragraph 5 of General Assembly resolution 50/52 of 11 December 1995:

(*a*) To continue its consideration of all proposals concerning the question of the maintenance of international peace and security in all its aspects in order to strengthen the role of the United Nations, and, in this context, to consider other proposals relating to the maintenance of international peace and security already submitted or which may be submitted to the Special Committee at its session in 2010;

(*b*) To continue to consider, on a priority basis and in an appropriate substantive manner and framework, the question of the implementation of the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations related to assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions under Chapter VII of the Charter based on all of the related reports of the Secretary-General[56] and the proposals submitted on the question;

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[50] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-third Session, Supplement No. 47* (A/63/47).

[51] Ibid., *Sixty-first Session, Supplement No. 33* (A/61/33), para. 72.

[52] A/64/125.

[53] See resolution 60/1.

[54] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixtieth Session, Supplement No. 33* (A/60/33), para. 77.

[55] Ibid., *Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 33* (A/64/33).

(*c*) To keep on its agenda the question of the peaceful settlement of disputes between States;

(*d*) To consider, as appropriate, any proposal referred to it by the General Assembly in the implementation of the decisions of the High-level Plenary Meeting of the sixtieth session of the Assembly in September 2005 that concern the Charter and any amendments thereto;

(*e*) To continue to consider, on a priority basis, ways and means of improving its working methods and enhancing its efficiency with a view to identifying widely acceptable measures for future implementation;

5. *Invites* the Special Committee at its session in 2010 to continue to identify new subjects for consideration in its future work with a view to contributing to the revitalization of the work of the United Nations;

6. *Notes* the readiness of the Special Committee to provide, within its mandate, such assistance as may be sought at the request of other subsidiary bodies of the General Assembly in relation to any issues before them;

7. *Requests* the Special Committee to submit a report on its work to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session;

8. *Recognizes* the important role of the International Court of Justice, the principal judicial organ of the United Nations, in adjudicating disputes among States and the value of its work, as well as the importance of having recourse to the Court in the peaceful settlement of disputes, takes note, consistent with Article 96 of the Charter, of the Court's advisory jurisdiction that may be requested by the General Assembly, the Security Council or other authorized organs of the United Nations and the specialized agencies, and requests the Secretary-General to distribute, in due course, the advisory opinions requested by the principal organs of the United Nations as official documents of the United Nations;

9. *Commends* the Secretary-General for the progress made in the preparation of studies of the *Repertory of Practice of United Nations Organs*, including the increased use of the internship programme of the United Nations and further expanded cooperation with academic institutions for this purpose, as well as the progress made towards updating the *Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council*;

10. *Notes with appreciation* the contributions made by Member States to the trust fund for the updating of the *Repertoire*, as well as the trust fund for the elimination of the backlog in the *Repertory*;

11. *Reiterates its call for* voluntary contributions to the trust fund for the updating of the *Repertoire*, voluntary contributions to the trust fund for the elimination of the backlog in the *Repertory* so as to further support the Secretariat in carrying out the effective elimination of that backlog, as well as the sponsoring, on a voluntary basis, and with no cost to the United Nations, of associate experts to assist in the updating of the two publications;

12. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts towards updating the two publications and making them available electronically in all their respective language versions;

13. *Reiterates* the responsibility of the Secretary-General for the quality of the *Repertory* and the *Repertoire*, and with regard to the *Repertoire*, calls upon the Secretary-General to continue to follow the modalities outlined in paragraphs 102 to 106 of the report of the Secretary-General of 18 September 1952;[57]

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on both the *Repertory* and the *Repertoire* to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session;

15. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to brief the Special Committee at its next session on the information referred to in paragraph 11 of his report on the implementation of the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations related to assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions;[58]

16. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the implementation of the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations related to assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session, under the item entitled "Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization";

17. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled "Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization".

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[56] A/48/573-S/26705, A/49/356, A/50/60-S/1995/1, A/50/361, A/50/423, A/51/317, A/52/308, A/53/312, A/54/383 and Add.1, A/55/295 and Add.1, A/56/303, A/57/165 and Add.1, A/58/346, A/59/334, A/60/320, A/61/304, A/62/206 and Corr.1, A/63/224 and A/64/225.

[57] A/2170.

[58] A/64/225.

Annex

Introduction and implementation of sanctions imposed by the United Nations

I. General issues

1. Sanctions remain an important tool under the Charter of the United Nations in efforts to maintain international peace and security without recourse to the use of force. Sanctions should be carefully targeted in support of clear and legitimate objectives under the Charter and be implemented in ways that balance effectiveness to achieve the desired results against possible adverse consequences, including socio-economic and humanitarian consequences, for populations and third States.

2. The purpose of sanctions is to modify the behaviour of the target State, party, individual or entity threatening international peace and security and not to punish or otherwise exact retribution. Sanctions regimes should be commensurate with these objectives.

3. Sanctions may be resorted to by the Security Council when it determines the existence of any threat to the peace, breach of the peace, or act of aggression. The Security Council should be guided by the approach taken in annex II to General Assembly resolution 51/242, where it is indicated that sanctions should be resorted to only with the utmost caution, when other peaceful options provided by the Charter are inadequate. The reasons that necessitate the imposition of sanctions should be identified and stated in advance.

4. The Security Council should introduce sanctions in conformity with the provisions of the Charter, taking into account other applicable rules of international law, in particular all of those related to human rights and fundamental freedoms.

5. Best practices and guidelines adopted by the Security Council and the General Assembly in the field of sanctions, in particular those contained in the 2005 World Summit Outcome, General Assembly resolution 51/242 and Security Council resolutions 1730 (2006), 1735 (2006) and 1822 (2008), should be taken into account in the elaboration and implementation of sanctions regimes. The best practices and methods contained in the report of the Informal Working Group of the Security Council on General Issues of Sanctions (S/2006/997), as taken note of in Security Council resolution 1732 (2006), might also be considered for these purposes.

6. Sanctions should be implemented and monitored effectively with clear benchmarks and should, as appropriate, have an expiration date or be periodically reviewed with a view to lifting them or not, or to adjusting them, taking into account the humanitarian situation and depending on the fulfilment by the target State and other parties of the requirements of the Security Council. Sanctions should remain in place for as limited a period as necessary to achieve their objectives and be lifted once their objectives have been achieved.

7. Sanctions regimes with regard to individuals and entities should ensure that the decision to list such individuals and entities is based on fair and clear procedures, including, as appropriate, a detailed statement of case provided by Member States, and that regular reviews of names on the list are conducted; ensure, to the degree possible, maximum specificity in identifying individuals and entities to be targeted; and ensure also that fair and clear procedures for de-listing exist early in sanctions regimes. Listed individuals and entities should be notified of the decision and of as much detail as possible in the publicly releasable portion of the statement of case. There should be an appropriate mechanism for handling individuals' or entities' requests for de-listing.

II. Unintended side effects of sanctions

8. Sanctions should avoid to the extent possible adverse humanitarian effects or unintended consequences for individuals and entities not targeted or third States. Targeted sanctions are a way of achieving this.

9. An objective assessment of the short-term and long-term socio-economic and humanitarian consequences of sanctions should be conducted by the Security Council and its sanctions committees with the assistance of the Secretariat at the stage of their preparation, as appropriate, and in the course of their implementation. In this regard, the methodology for the assessment of the humanitarian implications of sanctions reflected in the *Sanctions Assessment Handbook* (2004) might be useful.

10. Information on the humanitarian consequences of the introduction and implementation of sanctions, including those which have a bearing on the basic living conditions of the civilian population of the target State, on its socio-economic development and on third States which have suffered or may suffer as a result of their implementation, may be useful for the Security Council and its sanctions committees to consider.

11. To the maximum extent possible, situations in which the consequences of the introduction of sanctions would inflict considerable material and financial harm on third States or in which the civilian population in the target State or third States would experience considerable adverse consequences should be avoided.

12. Humanitarian and other exemptions should be made available in a consistent manner to all targeted measures such as arms embargoes, travel restrictions, aviation bans and financial sanctions, and considered in accordance with fair and clear procedures.

13. Efforts should be made to ensure that sanctions regimes do not hinder an adequate supply of humanitarian assistance from reaching the civilian population. Targeted States and parties should cooperate to this end. Essential humanitarian assistance should be considered for exemption by the relevant United Nations bodies, including the sanctions committees.

14. The principles of neutrality, independence, transparency, impartiality and non discrimination should guide the provision of humanitarian and medical assistance and other forms of humanitarian support for all sectors and groups of the civilian population.

15. Humanitarian and medical assistance and other forms of humanitarian support for all sectors and groups of the civilian population should not be provided without the consent of the recipient State or a request on its part.

16. In emergency situations and cases of force majeure (natural disasters, threat of famine, mass disturbances resulting in the disorganization of the country's Government), consideration should be given to the suspension of sanctions in order to prevent a humanitarian disaster. A decision on this must be taken in each specific case.

17. Decisions on sanctions should be in accordance with the purposes and principles set out in the Charter of the United Nations. Sanctions regimes should be designed to avoid unintended consequences in the target State or third States which may lead to violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

III. Implementation

18. Sanctions should be implemented in good faith by all States.

19. Monitoring and compliance are first and foremost the responsibility of individual Member States. Member States should endeavour to prevent or correct activities in violation of the sanctions measures within their jurisdiction. In this regard the provisions of the report of the Informal Working Group of the Security Council on General Issues of Sanctions (S/2006/997) should be taken into account, as appropriate.

20. International monitoring by the Security Council or by one of its subsidiary organs of compliance with sanctions measures, in accordance with relevant Security Council resolutions, can contribute to the effectiveness of United Nations sanctions. States that may require assistance in the implementation and monitoring of sanctions may seek the assistance of the United Nations or relevant regional organizations and donors.

21. States and relevant international and regional organizations with the capacity to do so should be encouraged to offer appropriate technical and financial assistance to other States to enhance their capacity to implement sanctions effectively.

22. States should be encouraged to cooperate in exchanging information about the legislative, administrative and practical implementation of sanctions.

RESOLUTION 64/116

Adopted at the 64th plenary meeting, on 16 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/451, para. 7)[39]

64/116. The rule of law at the national and international levels

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 63/128 of 11 December 2008,

Reaffirming its commitment to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and international law, which are indispensable foundations of a more peaceful, prosperous and just world, and reiterating its determination to foster strict respect for them and to establish a just and lasting peace all over the world,

Reaffirming that human rights, the rule of law and democracy are interlinked and mutually reinforcing and that they belong to the universal and indivisible core values and principles of the United Nations,

Reaffirming also the need for universal adherence to and implementation of the rule of law at both the national and international levels and its solemn commitment to an international order based on the rule of law and international law, which, together with the principles of justice, is essential for peaceful coexistence and cooperation among States,

Convinced that the advancement of the rule of law at the national and international levels is essential for the realization of sustained economic growth, sustainable development, the eradication of poverty and hunger and the protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, and acknowledging that collective security depends on effective cooperation, in accordance with the Charter and international law, against transnational threats,

Reaffirming the duty of all States to refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force in any manner inconsistent with the purposes and principles of the United Nations and to settle their international disputes by peaceful means in such a manner that international peace and security, and justice are not endangered, in accordance with Chapter VI of the Charter, and calling upon States that have not yet done so to consider accepting the jurisdiction of the International Court of Justice in accordance with its Statute,

Convinced that the promotion of and respect for the rule of law at the national and international levels, as well as justice and good governance, should guide the activities of the United Nations and of its Member States,

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[39] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced in the Committee by the representative of Liechtenstein on behalf of the Bureau.

Recalling paragraph 134 (*e*) of the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[60]

1. *Takes note* of the annual report of the Secretary-General on strengthening and coordinating United Nations rule of law activities;[61]

2. *Reaffirms* the role of the General Assembly in encouraging the progressive development of international law and its codification, and reaffirms further that States shall abide by all their obligations under international law;

3. *Stresses* the importance of adherence to the rule of law at the national level, and the need to strengthen support to Member States, upon their request, in the domestic implementation of their respective international obligations through enhanced technical assistance and capacity-building, based on greater coordination and coherence within the United Nations system and among donors, and calls for greater evaluation of the effectiveness of such activities;

4. *Calls upon* the United Nations system to systematically address, as appropriate, aspects of the rule of law in relevant activities, recognizing the importance of the rule of law to virtually all areas of United Nations engagement;

5. *Expresses full support* for the overall coordination and coherence role of the Rule of Law Coordination and Resource Group within the United Nations system within existing mandates, supported by the Rule of Law Unit in the Executive Office of the Secretary-General, under the leadership of the Deputy Secretary-General;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit his next annual report on United Nations rule of law activities, in accordance with paragraph 5 of resolution 63/128, taking note of paragraph 97 of the report;[61]

7. *Welcomes* the dialogue initiated by the Rule of Law Coordination and Resource Group and the Rule of Law Unit with Member States on the topic "Promoting the rule of law at the international level", and calls for the continuation of this dialogue with a view to fostering the rule of law at the international level;

8. *Encourages* the Secretary-General and the United Nations system to accord high priority to rule of law activities;

9. *Invites* the International Court of Justice, the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law and the International Law Commission to continue to comment, in their respective reports to the General Assembly, on their current roles in promoting the rule of law;

10. *Invites* the Rule of Law Coordination and Resource Group and the Rule of Law Unit to continue to interact with Member States on a regular basis, in particular in informal briefings;

11. *Stresses* the need to provide the Rule of Law Unit with the necessary funding and staff in order to enable it to carry out its tasks in an effective and sustainable manner and urges the Secretary-General and Member States to continue to support the functioning of the Unit;

12. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled "The rule of law at the national and international levels", invites Member States to focus their comments in the upcoming Sixth Committee debate on the sub-topic "Laws and practices of Member States in implementing international law",[62] without prejudice to the consideration of the item as a whole, and invites the Secretary-General to provide information on this sub-topic in his report, after seeking the views of Member States.

RESOLUTION 64/117

Adopted at the 64th plenary meeting, on 16 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/452, para. 6)[63]

64/117. The scope and application of the principle of universal jurisdiction

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its commitment to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, to international law and to an international order based on the rule of law, which is essential for peaceful coexistence and cooperation among States,

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to invite Member States to submit, before 30 April 2010, information and observations on the scope and application of the principle of universal jurisdiction, including information on the relevant applicable international treaties, their domestic legal rules and judicial practice, and to prepare and submit to the General Assembly, at its sixty-fifth session, a report based on such information and observations;

2. *Decides* that the Sixth Committee shall continue its consideration of the scope and application of the principle of universal jurisdiction, without prejudice to the consideration of related issues in other forums of the United Nations.

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[60] See resolution 60/1.

[61] A/64/298.

[62] See the note by the Chairman of the Sixth Committee (A/C.6/63/L.23). See also paragraph 10 of resolution 63/128 in which the sub-topic "Rule of law and transitional justice in conflict and post-conflict situations" was identified as a sub-topic for the sixty-sixth session.

[63] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced in the Committee by the representative of Rwanda on behalf of the Bureau.

3. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled "The scope and application of the principle of universal jurisdiction".

RESOLUTION 64/118

Adopted at the 64th plenary meeting, on 16 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/453, para. 11)[64]

64/118. Measures to eliminate international terrorism

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming, in all its aspects, the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy adopted on 8 September 2006,[65] enhancing the overall framework for the efforts of the international community to effectively counter the scourge of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, and recalling the first biennial review of the Strategy, on 4 and 5 September 2008, and the debates that were held on that occasion,[66]

Recalling the Declaration on the Occasion of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the United Nations,[67]

Recalling also he United Nations Millennium Declaration,[68]

Recalling further the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[69] and reaffirming in particular the section on terrorism,

Recalling the Declaration on Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism, contained in the annex to General Assembly resolution 49/60 of 9 December 1994, and the Declaration to Supplement the 1994 Declaration on Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism, contained in the annex to Assembly resolution 51/210 of 17 December 1996,

Recalling also all General Assembly resolutions on measures to eliminate international terrorism and Security Council resolutions on threats to international peace and security caused by terorist acts,

Convinced of the importance of the consideration of measures to eliminate international terrorism by the General Assembly as the universal organ having competence to do so,

Deeply disturbed by the persistence of terrorist acts, which have been carried out worldwide,

Reaffirming its strong condemnation of the heinous acts of terrorism that have caused enormous loss of human life, destruction and damage, including those which prompted the adoption of General Assembly resolution 56/1 of 12 September 2001, as well as Security Council resolutions 1368 (2001) of 12 September 2001, 1373 (2001) of 28 September 2001 and 1377 (2001) of 12 November 2001, and those that have occurred since,

Recalling the strong condemnation of the atrocious and deliberate attack against the headquarters of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq in Baghdad on 19 August 2003 in General Assembly resolution 57/338 of 15 September 2003 and Security Council resolution 1502 (2003) of 26 August 2003,

Affirming that States must ensure that any measure taken to combat terrorism complies with all their obligations under international law and must adopt such measures in accordance with international law, in particular international human rights, refugee and humanitarian law,

Stressing the need to strengthen further international cooperation among States and among international organizations and agencies, regional organizations and arrangements and the United Nations in order to prevent, combat and eliminate terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, wherever and by whomsoever committed, in accordance with the principles of the Charter, international law and the relevant international conventions,

Noting the role of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism in monitoring the implementation of that resolution, including the taking of the necessary financial, legal and technical measures by States and the ratification or acceptance of the relevant international conventions and protocols,

Mindful of the need to enhance the role of the United Nations and the relevant specialized agencies in combating international terrorism and of the proposals of the Secretary-General to enhance the role of the Organization in this respect,

Mindful also of the essential need to strengthen international, regional and subregional cooperation aimed at enhancing the national capacity of States to prevent and suppress effectively international terrorism in all its forms and manifestations,

Reiterating its call upon States to review urgently the scope of the existing international legal provisions on the prevention, repression and elimination of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, with the aim of ensuring that there is a comprehensive legal framework covering all aspects of the matter,

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[64] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced in the Committee by the representative of Canada on behalf of the Bureau.

[65] Resolution 60/288.

[66] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Plenary Meetings*, 117th to 120th meetings (A/62/PV.117–120), and corrigendum.

[67] See resolution 50/6.

[68] See resolution 55/2.

[69] See resolution 60/1.

Emphasizing that tolerance and dialogue among civilizations and the enhancement of interfaith and intercultural understanding are among the most important elements in promoting cooperation and success in combating terrorism, and welcoming the various initiatives to this end,

Reaffirming that no terrorist act can be justified in any circumstances,

Recalling Security Council resolution 1624 (2005) of 14 September 2005, and bearing in mind that States must ensure that any measure taken to combat terrorism complies with their obligations under international law, in particular international human rights, refugee and humanitarian law,

Taking note of recent developments and initiatives at the international, regional and subregional levels to prevent and suppress international terrorism, including those of the African Union, the ASEAN Regional Forum, the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, the Bali Counter-Terrorism Process, the Central American Integration System, the Collective Security Treaty Organization, the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa, the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf, the Council of Europe, the East African Community, the Economic Community of West African States, the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership, the European Free Trade Association, the European Union, the Group of Eight, the Intergovernmental Authority on Development, the International Civil Aviation Organization, the International Maritime Organization, the League of Arab States, the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the Organization of American States, the Organization of the Islamic Conference, the Pacific Islands Forum, the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, the Southern African Development Community and the World Customs Organization,

Noting regional efforts to prevent, combat and eliminate terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, wherever and by whomsoever committed, including through the elaboration of, and adherence to, regional conventions,

Recalling its decision in resolutions 54/110 of 9 December 1999, 55/158 of 12 December 2000, 56/88 of 12 December 2001, 57/27 of 19 November 2002, 58/81 of 9 December 2003, 59/46 of 2 December 2004, 60/43 of 8 December 2005, 61/40 of 4 December 2006, 62/71 of 6 December 2007 and 63/129 of 11 December 2008 that the Ad Hoc Committee established by General Assembly resolution 51/210 should address, and keep on its agenda, the question of convening a high-level conference under the auspices of the United Nations to formulate a joint organized response of the international community to terrorism in all its forms and manifestations,

Recalling also the Final Document of the Fifteenth Summit Conference of Heads of State and Government of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, adopted in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, on 16 July 2009,[70] which reiterated the collective position of the Non-Aligned Movement on terrorism and reaffirmed its previous initiative calling for an international summit conference under the auspices of the United Nations to formulate a joint organized response of the international community to terrorism in all its forms and manifestations,[71] as well as other relevant initiatives,

Aware of its resolutions 57/219 of 18 December 2002, 58/187 of 22 December 2003, 59/191 of 20 December 2004, 60/158 of 16 December 2005, 61/171 of 19 December 2006, 62/159 of 18 December 2007 and 63/185 of 18 December 2008,

Having examined the report of the Secretary-General,[72] the report of the Ad Hoc Committee established by General Assembly resolution 51/210[73] and the oral report of the Chairperson of the Working Group established by the Sixth Committee at the sixty-fourth session of the Assembly,[74]

1. *Strongly condemns* all acts, methods and practices of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations as criminal and unjustifiable, wherever and by whomsoever committed;

2. *Calls upon* all Member States, the United Nations and other appropriate international, regional and subregional organizations to implement the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy,[illegible] as well as the resolution relating to the first biennial review of the Strategy,[75] in all its aspects at the international, regional, subregional and national levels without delay, including by mobilizing resources and expertise;

3. *Recalls* the pivotal role of the General Assembly in following up the implementation and the updating of the Strategy, and in this regard also recalls its invitation to the Secretary-General to contribute to the future deliberations of the Assembly, and requests the Secretary-General when doing so to provide information on relevant activities within the Secretariat to ensure overall coordination and coherence in the counter-terrorism efforts of the United Nations system;

4. *Reiterates* that criminal acts intended or calculated to provoke a state of terror in the general public, a group of persons or particular persons for political purposes are in any circumstances unjustifiable, whatever the considerations of a political, philosophical, ideological, racial, ethnic, religious or other nature that may be invoked to justify them;

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[70] A/63/965-S/2009/514, annex.

[71] See A/53/667-S/1998/1071, annex I, paras. 149–162.

[72] A/64/161 and Add.1.

[73] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 37* (A/64/37).

[74] Ibid., *Sixty-fourth Session, Sixth Committee*, 14th meeting (A/C.6/64/SR.14), and corrigendum.

[75] Resolution 62/272.

5. *Reiterates its call upon* all States to adopt further measures in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and the relevant provisions of international law, including international standards of human rights, to prevent terrorism and to strengthen international cooperation in combating terrorism and, to that end, to consider in particular the implementation of the measures set out in paragraphs 3 (*a*) to (*f*) of General Assembly resolution 51/210;

6. *Also reiterates its call upon* all States, with the aim of enhancing the efficient implementation of relevant legal instruments, to intensify, as and where appropriate, the exchange of information on facts related to terrorism and, in so doing, to avoid the dissemination of inaccurate or unverified information;

7. *Reiterates its call upon* States to refrain from financing, encouraging, providing training for or otherwise supporting terrorist activities;

8. *Urges* States to ensure that their nationals or other persons and entities within their territory that wilfully provide or collect funds for the benefit of persons or entities who commit, or attempt to commit, facilitate or participate in the commission of terrorist acts are punished by penalties consistent with the grave nature of such acts;

9. *Reminds* States of their obligations under relevant international conventions and protocols and Security Council resolutions, including Council resolution 1373 (2001), to ensure that perpetrators of terrorist acts are brought to justice;

10. *Reaffirms* that international cooperation as well as actions by States to combat terrorism should be conducted in conformity with the principles of the Charter, international law and relevant international conventions;

11. *Recalls* the adoption of the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism,[76] the Amendment to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material,[77] the Protocol of 2005 to the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Maritime Navigation[78] and the Protocol of 2005 to the Protocol for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Fixed Platforms Located on the Continental Shelf,[79] and urges all States to consider, as a matter of priority, becoming parties to these instruments;

12. *Urges* all States that have not yet done so to consider, as a matter of priority and in accordance with Security Council resolution 1373 (2001) and Council resolution 1566 (2004) of 8 October 2004, becoming parties to the relevant conventions and protocols as referred to in paragraph 6 of General Assembly resolution 51/210, as well as the International Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings,[80] the International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism,[81] the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism and the Amendment to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material, and calls upon all States to enact, as appropriate, the domestic legislation necessary to implement the provisions of those conventions and protocols, to ensure that the jurisdiction of their courts enables them to bring to trial the perpetrators of terrorist acts and to cooperate with and provide support and assistance to other States and relevant international and regional organizations to that end;

13. *Urges* States to cooperate with the Secretary-General and with one another, as well as with interested intergovernmental organizations, with a view to ensuring, where appropriate within existing mandates, that technical and other expert advice is provided to those States requiring and requesting assistance in becoming parties to and implementing the conventions and protocols referred to in paragraph 12 above;

14. *Notes with appreciation and satisfaction* that, consistent with the call contained in paragraphs 11 and 12 of General Assembly resolution 63/129, a number of States became parties to the relevant conventions and protocols referred to therein, thereby realizing the objective of wider acceptance and implementation of those conventions;

15. *Reaffirms* the Declaration on Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism[82] and the Declaration to Supplement the 1994 Declaration on Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism,[83] and calls upon all States to implement them;

16. *Calls upon* all States to cooperate to prevent and suppress terrorist acts;

17. *Urges* all States and the Secretary-General, in their efforts to prevent international terrorism, to make the best use of the existing institutions of the United Nations;

18. *Requests* the Terrorism Prevention Branch of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in Vienna to continue its efforts to enhance, through its mandate, the

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[76] Resolution 59/290, annex.

[77] Adopted on 8 July 2005 by the Conference to Consider Proposed Amendments to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material.

[78] Adopted on 14 October 2005 by the Diplomatic Conference on the Revision of the SUA Treaties (LEG/CONF.15/21).

[79] Adopted on 14 October 2005 by the Diplomatic Conference on the Revision of the SUA Treaties (LEG/CONF.15/22).

[80] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2149, No. 37517.

[81] Ibid., vol. 2178, No. 38349.

[82] Resolution 49/60, annex.

[83] Resolution 51/210, annex.

capabilities of the United Nations in the prevention of terrorism, and recognizes, in the context of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and Security Council resolution 1373 (2001), its role in assisting States in becoming parties to and implementing the relevant international conventions and protocols relating to terrorism, including the most recent among them, and in strengthening international cooperation mechanisms in criminal matters related to terrorism, including through national capacity-building;

19. *Welcomes* the current efforts by the Secretariat to prepare the third edition of the publication *International Instruments related to the Prevention and Suppression of International Terrorism* in all official languages;

20. *Invites* regional intergovernmental organizations to submit to the Secretary-General information on the measures they have adopted at the regional level to eliminate international terrorism, as well as on intergovernmental meetings held by those organizations;

21. *Notes* the progress made in the elaboration of the draft comprehensive convention on international terrorism during the meetings of the Ad Hoc Committee established by General Assembly resolution 51/210 and of the Working Group established by the Sixth Committee during the sixty-fourth session of the Assembly, and welcomes continuing efforts to that end;

22. *Decides* that the Ad Hoc Committee shall, on an expedited basis, continue to elaborate the draft comprehensive convention on international terrorism and shall continue to discuss the item included in its agenda by General Assembly resolution 54/110 concerning the question of convening a high-level conference under the auspices of the United Nations;

23. *Also decides* that the Ad Hoc Committee shall meet from 12 to 16 April 2010 in order to fulfil the mandate referred to in paragraph 22 above;

24. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the Ad Hoc Committee with the facilities necessary for the performance of its work;

25. *Requests* the Ad Hoc Committee to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session in the event of the completion of the draft comprehensive convention on international terrorism;

26. *Also requests* the Ad Hoc Committee to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session on progress made in the implementation of its mandate;

27. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled "Measures to eliminate international terrorism".

RESOLUTION 64/119

Adopted at the 64th plenary meeting, on 16 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/454, para. 11)[84]

64/119. Administration of justice at the United Nations

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 63/253 of 24 December 2008, by which it adopted the statutes of the United Nations Dispute Tribunal and the United Nations Appeals Tribunal, as set out in annexes I and II to that resolution,

Recalling also article 7, paragraph 1, of the statute of the United Nations Dispute Tribunal and article 6, paragraph 1, of the statute of the United Nations Appeals Tribunal, by virtue of which, subject to the provisions of the respective statutes, each Tribunal shall establish its own rules of procedure, which shall be subject to approval by the General Assembly,

Recalling further its request that the Secretary-General submit, for approval, the rules of procedure of the Tribunals as soon as possible but no later than at its sixty-fourth session, and its decision that until then the Tribunals may apply the rules of procedure on a provisional basis,[85]

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on approval of the rules of procedure of the United Nations Dispute Tribunal and the United Nations Appeals Tribunal, containing the rules of procedure established by the respective Tribunals on 26 June 2009,[86]

Approves the rules of procedure of the United Nations Dispute Tribunal and the United Nations Appeals Tribunal, as set out in annexes I and II to the present resolution.

Annex I

Rules of procedure of the United Nations Dispute Tribunal

Article 1
Election of the President

1. The Dispute Tribunal shall elect a President from among the full-time judges, for a renewable term of one year, to direct the work of the Tribunal and of the Registries, in accordance with the statute of the Dispute Tribunal.

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[84] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced in the Committee by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee on behalf of the Chairman of the Working Group of the Sixth Committee on the Administration of Justice at the United Nations.

[85] See resolution 63/253, para. 29.

[86] A/64/229.

2. Until otherwise decided by the Dispute Tribunal:

(*a*) The election shall occur at a plenary meeting every year and the President shall take up his or her duties upon election;

(*b*) The retiring President shall remain in office until his or her successor is elected;

(*c*) If the President should cease to be a judge of the Dispute Tribunal, should resign his or her office before the expiration of the normal term or is unable to act, an election shall be held for the purpose of appointing a successor for the unexpired portion of the term;

(*d*) Elections shall be by majority vote. Any judge who cannot attend for that purpose is entitled to vote by correspondence.

Article 2
Plenary meeting

1. The Dispute Tribunal shall normally hold a plenary meeting once a year to deal with questions affecting the administration or operation of the Dispute Tribunal.

2. Three judges shall constitute a quorum for plenary meetings of the Dispute Tribunal.

Article 3
Commencement of office

Unless otherwise decided by the General Assembly, the term of office of the judges of the Dispute Tribunal shall commence on the first day of July following their appointment by the General Assembly.

Article 4
Venue

The judges of the Dispute Tribunal shall exercise their functions in New York, Geneva and Nairobi respectively. However, the Dispute Tribunal may decide to hold sessions at other duty stations as required.

Article 5
Consideration by a panel

1. Except in cases falling under article 5.2 below, cases shall be considered by a single judge.

2. As provided for in its statute, the Dispute Tribunal may refer any case to a panel of three judges for a decision.

3. If a case is examined by a panel of three judges, the decision shall be taken by majority vote. Any concurring, separate or dissenting opinion shall be recorded in the judgement.

Article 6
Filing of cases

1. An application shall be filed at a Registry of the Dispute Tribunal, taking into account geographical proximity and any other relevant material considerations.

2. The Dispute Tribunal shall assign cases to the appropriate Registry. A party may apply for a change of venue.

Article 7
Time limits for filing applications

1. Applications shall be submitted to the Dispute Tribunal through the Registrar within:

(*a*) 90 calendar days of the receipt by the applicant of the management evaluation, as appropriate;

(*b*) 90 calendar days of the relevant deadline for the communication of a response to a management evaluation, namely, 30 calendar days for disputes arising at Headquarters and 45 calendar days for disputes arising at other offices; or

(*c*) 90 calendar days of the receipt by the applicant of the administrative decision in cases where a management evaluation of the contested decision is not required.

2. Any person making claims on behalf of an incapacitated or deceased staff member of the United Nations, including the Secretariat and separately administered funds and programmes, shall have one calendar year to submit an application.

3. Where the parties have sought mediation of their dispute, the application shall be receivable if filed within 90 calendar days after mediation has broken down.

4. Where an application is filed to enforce the implementation of an agreement reached through mediation, the application shall be receivable if filed within 90 calendar days of the last day for implementation as specified in the mediation agreement or, when the mediation agreement is silent on the matter, after 30 calendar days from the date of the signing of the agreement.

5. In exceptional cases, an applicant may submit a written request to the Dispute Tribunal seeking suspension, waiver or extension of the time limits referred to in article 7.1 above. Such request shall succinctly set out the exceptional circumstances that, in the view of the applicant, justify the request. The request shall not exceed two pages in length.

6. In accordance with article 8.4 of the statute of the Dispute Tribunal, no application shall be receivable if filed more than three years after the applicant's receipt of the contested administrative decision.

Article 8
Applications

1. An application may be submitted on an application form to be prescribed by the Registrar.

2. The application should include the following information:

(*a*) The applicant's full name, date of birth and nationality;

(*b*) The applicant's employment status (including United Nations index number and department, office and section) or relationship to the staff member if the applicant is relying on the staff member's rights;

(*c*) Name of the applicant's legal representative (with authorization attached);

(*d*) The address to which documents should be sent;

(*e*) When and where the contested decision, if any, was taken (with the contested decision attached);

(*f*) Action and remedies sought;

(*g*) Any supporting documentation (annexed and numbered, including, if translated, an indication thereof).

3. The signed original application form and the annexes thereto shall be submitted together. The documents may be transmitted electronically.

4. After ascertaining that the requirements of the present article have been complied with, the Registrar shall transmit a copy of the application to the respondent and to any other party a judge considers appropriate. If the formal requirements of the article are not fulfilled, the Registrar may require the applicant to comply with the requirements of the article within a specified period of time. Once the corrections have been properly made, the Registrar shall transmit a copy of the application to the respondent.

Article 9
Summary judgement

A party may move for summary judgement when there is no dispute as to the material facts of the case and a party is entitled to judgement as a matter of law. The Dispute Tribunal may determine, on its own initiative, that summary judgement is appropriate.

Article 10
Reply

1. The respondent's reply shall be submitted within 30 calendar days of the date of receipt of the application by the respondent. The signed original reply and the annexes thereto shall be submitted together. The document may be transmitted electronically. A respondent who has not submitted a reply within the requisite period shall not be entitled to take part in the proceedings, except with the permission of the Dispute Tribunal.

2. After ascertaining that the requirements of the present article have been complied with, the Registrar shall transmit a copy of the response to the applicant and to any other party a judge considers appropriate. If the formal requirements of the article are not fulfilled, the Registrar may require the respondent to comply with the requirements of the article within a specified period of time. Once the corrections have been properly made, the Registrar shall transmit a copy of the reply to the applicant.

Article 11
Joining of a party

The Dispute Tribunal may at any time, either on the application of a party or on its own initiative, join another party if it appears to the Dispute Tribunal that that party has a legitimate interest in the outcome of the proceedings.

Article 12
Representation

1. A party may present his or her case to the Dispute Tribunal in person, or may designate counsel from the Office of Staff Legal Assistance or counsel authorized to practice law in a national jurisdiction.

2. A party may also be represented by a staff member or a former staff member of the United Nations or one of the specialized agencies.

Article 13
Suspension of action during a management evaluation

1. The Dispute Tribunal shall order a suspension of action on an application filed by an individual requesting the Dispute Tribunal to suspend, during the pendency of the management evaluation, the implementation of a contested administrative decision that is the subject of an ongoing management evaluation, where the decision appears prima facie to be unlawful, in cases of particular urgency and where its implementation would cause irreparable damage.

2. The Registrar shall transmit the application to the respondent.

3. The Dispute Tribunal shall consider an application for interim measures within five working days of the service of the application on the respondent.

4. The decision of the Dispute Tribunal on such an application shall not be subject to appeal.

Article 14
Suspension of action during the proceedings

1. At any time during the proceedings, the Dispute Tribunal may order interim measures to provide temporary relief where the contested administrative decision appears prima facie to be unlawful, in cases of particular urgency and where its implementation would cause irreparable damage. This

temporary relief may include an order to suspend the implementation of the contested administrative decision, except in cases of appointment, promotion or termination.

2. The Registrar shall transmit the application to the respondent.

3. The Dispute Tribunal shall consider an application for interim measures within five working days of the service of the application on the respondent.

4. The decision of the Dispute Tribunal on such an application shall not be subject to appeal.

Article 15
Referral to mediation

1. At any time during the proceedings, including at the hearing, the Dispute Tribunal may propose to the parties that the case be referred for mediation and suspend the proceedings.

2. Where the judge proposes and the parties consent to mediation, the Dispute Tribunal shall send the case to the Mediation Division in the Office of the Ombudsman for consideration.

3. Where parties on their own initiative decide to seek mediation, they shall promptly inform the Registry in writing.

4. Upon referral of a case to the Mediation Division, the concerned Registry shall forward the case file to the Mediation Division. The proceedings will be suspended during mediation.

5. The time limit for mediation normally shall not exceed three months. However, after consultation with the parties, where the Mediation Division considers it appropriate, it will notify the Registry that the informal efforts will require additional time.

6. It shall be the responsibility of the Mediation Division to apprise the Dispute Tribunal of the outcome of the mediation in a timely manner.

7. All documents prepared for and oral statements made during any informal conflict-resolution process or mediation are absolutely privileged and confidential and shall never be disclosed to the Dispute Tribunal. No mention shall be made of any mediation efforts in documents or written pleadings submitted to the Dispute Tribunal or in any oral arguments made before the Dispute Tribunal.

Article 16
Hearing

1. The judge hearing a case may hold oral hearings.

2. A hearing shall normally be held following an appeal against an administrative decision imposing a disciplinary measure.

3. The Registrar shall notify the parties of the date and time of a hearing in advance and confirm the names of witnesses or expert witnesses for the hearing of a particular case.

4. The parties or their duly designated representatives must be present at the hearing either in person or, where unavailable, by video link, telephone or other electronic means.

5. If the Dispute Tribunal requires the physical presence of a party or any other person at the hearing, the necessary costs associated with the travel and accommodation of the party or other person shall be borne by the Organization.

6. The oral proceedings shall be held in public unless the judge hearing the case decides, at his or her own initiative or at the request of one of the parties, that exceptional circumstances require that the oral proceedings be closed. If appropriate in the circumstances, the oral hearing may be held by video link, telephone or other electronic means.

Article 17
Oral evidence

1. The parties may call witnesses and experts to testify. The opposing party may cross-examine witnesses and experts. The Dispute Tribunal may examine witnesses and experts called by either party and may call any other witnesses or experts it deems necessary. The Dispute Tribunal may make an order requiring the presence of any person or the production of any document.

2. The Dispute Tribunal may, if it considers it appropriate in the interest of justice to do so, proceed to determine a case in the absence of a party.

3. Each witness shall make the following declaration before giving his or her statement: "I solemnly declare upon my honour and conscience that I will speak the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth."

4. Each expert shall make the following declaration before giving his or her statement: "I solemnly declare upon my honour and conscience that my statement will be in accordance with my sincere belief."

5. Any party may object to the testimony of a given witness or expert, stating reasons for such objection. The Dispute Tribunal shall decide on the matter. Its decision shall be final.

6. The Dispute Tribunal shall decide whether the personal appearance of a witness or expert is required at oral proceedings and determine the appropriate means for satisfying the requirement for personal appearance. Evidence may be taken by video link, telephone or other electronic means.

Article 18
Evidence

1. The Dispute Tribunal shall determine the admissibility of any evidence.

2. The Dispute Tribunal may order the production of evidence for either party at any time and may require any person to disclose any document or provide any information that appears to the Dispute Tribunal to be necessary for a fair and expeditious disposal of the proceedings.

3. A party wishing to submit evidence that is in the possession of the opposing party or of any other entity may, in the initial application or at any stage of the proceedings, request the Dispute Tribunal to order the production of the evidence.

4. The Dispute Tribunal may, at the request of either party, impose measures to preserve the confidentiality of evidence, where warranted by security interests or other exceptional circumstances.

5. The Dispute Tribunal may exclude evidence which it considers irrelevant, frivolous or lacking in probative value. The Dispute Tribunal may also limit oral testimony as it deems appropriate.

Article 19
Case management

The Dispute Tribunal may at any time, either on an application of a party or on its own initiative, issue any order or give any direction which appears to a judge to be appropriate for the fair and expeditious disposal of the case and to do justice to the parties.

Article 20
Remand of case for the institution or correction of the required procedure

Prior to a determination of the merits of a case, should the Dispute Tribunal find that a relevant procedure prescribed in the Staff Regulations and Rules or applicable administrative issuances has not been observed, the Tribunal may, with the concurrence of the Secretary-General, remand the case for the institution or correction of the required procedure, which, in any case, should not take longer than three months. In such cases, the Dispute Tribunal may order the payment of compensation to the applicant for such loss as may have been caused by the procedural delay. The compensation is not to exceed the equivalent of three months' net base salary.

Article 21
Registry

1. The Dispute Tribunal shall be supported by Registries, which shall provide all necessary administrative and support services to it.

2. The Registries shall be established in New York, Geneva and Nairobi. Each Registry shall be headed by a Registrar appointed by the Secretary-General and such other staff as is necessary.

3. The Registrars shall discharge the duties set out in the rules of procedure and shall support the work of the Dispute Tribunal at the direction of the President or the judge at each location. In particular, the Registrars shall:

(*a*) Transmit all documents and make all notifications required in the rules of procedure or required by the President in connection with proceedings before the Dispute Tribunal;

(*b*) Establish for each case a master Registry file, which shall record all actions taken in connection with the preparation of the case for hearing, the dates thereof and the dates on which any document or notification forming part of the procedure is received in or dispatched from his or her office;

(*c*) Perform any other duties that are required by the President or the judge for the efficient functioning of the Dispute Tribunal.

4. A Registrar, if unable to act, shall be replaced by an official appointed by the Secretary-General.

Article 22
Intervention by persons not party to the case

1. Any person for whom recourse to the Dispute Tribunal is available under article 2.4 of the statute may apply, on an application form to be prescribed by the Registrar, to intervene in a case at any stage thereof on the grounds that he or she has a right that may be affected by the judgement to be issued by the Dispute Tribunal.

2. After ascertaining that the requirements of the present article have been complied with, the Registrar shall transmit a copy of the application for intervention to the applicant and to the respondent.

3. The Dispute Tribunal shall decide on the admissibility of the application for intervention. Such decision shall be final and shall be communicated to the intervener and the parties by the Registrar.

4. The Dispute Tribunal shall establish the modalities of the intervention. If admissible, the Dispute Tribunal shall decide which documents, if any, relating to the proceedings are to be transmitted to the intervener by the Registrar and shall fix a time by which any written submissions must be submitted by the intervener. It shall also decide whether the intervener shall be permitted to participate in any oral proceedings.

Article 23
Intervention procedure

An application for intervention shall be submitted on a prescribed form, the signed original of which shall be submitted to the Registrar. It may be transmitted electronically.

Article 24
Friend-of-the-court briefs

1. A staff association may submit a signed application to file a friend-of-the-court brief on a form to be prescribed by the Registrar, which may be transmitted electronically. The Registrar shall forward a copy of the application to the parties, who shall have three days to file any objections, which shall be submitted on a prescribed form.

2. The President or the judge hearing the case may grant the application if it considers that the filing of the brief would assist the Dispute Tribunal in its deliberations. The decision will be communicated to the applicant and the parties by the Registrar.

Article 25
Judgements

1. Judgements shall be issued in writing and shall state the reasons, facts and law on which they are based.

2. When a case is decided by a panel of three judges, a judge may append a separate, dissenting or concurring opinion.

3. Judgements shall be drawn up in any official language of the United Nations, two signed originals of which shall be deposited in the archives of the United Nations.

4. The Registrars shall transmit a copy of the judgement to each party. An individual applicant or respondent shall receive a copy of the judgement in the language in which the original application was submitted, unless he or she requests a copy in another official language of the United Nations.

5. The Registrars shall send to all judges of the Dispute Tribunal copies of all the judgements of the Dispute Tribunal.

Article 26
Publication of judgements

1. The Registrars shall arrange for publication of the judgements of the Dispute Tribunal on the website of the Dispute Tribunal after they are delivered.

2. The judgements of the Dispute Tribunal shall protect personal data and shall be available at the Registry of the Dispute Tribunal.

Article 27
Conflict of interest

1. The term "conflict of interest" means any factor that may impair or reasonably give the appearance of impairing the ability of a judge to independently and impartially adjudicate a case assigned to him or her.

2. A conflict of interest arises where a case assigned to a judge involves any of the following:

(*a*) A person with whom the judge has a personal, familiar or professional relationship;

(*b*) A matter in which the judge has previously served in another capacity, including as an adviser, counsel, expert or witness;

(*c*) Any other circumstances that would make it appear to a reasonable and impartial observer that the judge's participation in the adjudication of the matter would be inappropriate.

Article 28
Recusal

1. A judge of the Dispute Tribunal who has or appears to have a conflict of interest as defined in article 27 of the rules of procedure shall recuse himself or herself from the case and shall so inform the President.

2. A party may make a reasoned request for the recusal of a judge on the grounds of a conflict of interest to the President of the Dispute Tribunal, who, after seeking comments from the judge, shall decide on the request and shall inform the party of the decision in writing. A request for recusal of the President shall be referred to a three-judge panel for decision.

3. The Registrar shall communicate the decision to the parties concerned.

Article 29
Revision of judgements

1. Either party may apply to the Dispute Tribunal for a revision of a judgement on the basis of the discovery of a decisive fact that was, at the time the judgement was rendered, unknown to the Dispute Tribunal and to the party applying for revision, always provided that such ignorance was not due to negligence.

2. An application for revision must be made within 30 calendar days of the discovery of the fact and within one year of the date of the judgement.

3. The application for revision will be sent to the other party, who has 30 days after receipt to submit comments to the Registrar.

Article 30
Interpretation of judgements

Either party may apply to the Dispute Tribunal for an interpretation of the meaning or scope of a judgement, provided that it is not under consideration by the Appeals Tribunal. The application for interpretation shall be sent to the other party, who shall have 30 days to submit comments on the application. The Dispute Tribunal will decide whether to admit the application for interpretation and, if it does so, shall issue its interpretation.

Article 31
Correction of judgements

Clerical or arithmetical mistakes, or errors arising from any accidental slip or omission, may at any time be corrected by the Dispute Tribunal, either on its own initiative or on the application by any of the parties on a prescribed form.

Article 32
Execution of judgements

1. Judgements of the Dispute Tribunal shall be binding on the parties, but are subject to appeal in accordance with the statute of the Appeals Tribunal. In the absence of such appeal, it shall be executable following the expiry of the time provided for appeal in the statute of the Appeals Tribunal.

2. Once a judgement is executable under article 11.3 of the statute of the Dispute Tribunal, either party may apply to the Dispute Tribunal for an order for execution of the judgement if the judgement requires execution within a certain period of time and such execution has not been carried out.

Article 33
Titles

The titles of the articles in the rules of procedure are for reference purposes only and do not constitute an interpretation of the article concerned.

Article 34
Calculation of time limits

The time limits prescribed in the rules of procedure:

(*a*) Refer to calendar days and shall not include the day of the event from which the period runs;

(*b*) Shall include the next working day of the Registry when the last day of the period is not a working day;

(*c*) Shall be deemed to have been met if the documents in question were dispatched by reasonable means on the last day of the period.

Article 35
Waiver of time limits

Subject to article 8.3 of the statute of the Dispute Tribunal, the President, or the judge or panel hearing a case, may shorten or extend a time limit fixed by the rules of procedure or waive any rule when the interests of justice so require.

Article 36
Procedural matters not covered in the rules of procedure

1. All matters that are not expressly provided for in the rules of procedure shall be dealt with by decision of the Dispute Tribunal on the particular case, by virtue of the powers conferred on it by article 7 of its statute.

2. The Dispute Tribunal may issue practice directions related to the implementation of the rules of procedure.

Article 37
Amendment of the rules of procedure

1. The Dispute Tribunal in plenary meeting may adopt amendments to the rules of procedure, which shall be submitted to the General Assembly for approval.

2. The amendments shall operate provisionally until approved by the General Assembly or until they are amended or withdrawn by the Dispute Tribunal in accordance with a decision of the General Assembly.

3. The President, after consultation with the judges of the Dispute Tribunal, may instruct the Registrars to revise any forms from time to time in the light of experience, provided that such modifications are consistent with the rules of procedure.

Article 38
Entry into force

1. The rules of procedure shall enter into force on the first day of the month following their approval by the General Assembly.

2. The rules of procedure shall operate provisionally from the date of their adoption by the Dispute Tribunal until their entry into force.

Annex II

Rules of procedure of the United Nations Appeals Tribunal

Article 1
Election of the President and Vice-Presidents

1. The Appeals Tribunal shall elect a President, a First Vice-President and a Second Vice-President.

2. Until otherwise decided by the Appeals Tribunal:

(*a*) The election shall occur at a plenary meeting during the Appeals Tribunal's last session each year. The President and Vice-Presidents shall hold office for one year and shall take up their duties upon election;

(*b*) The retiring President and Vice-Presidents shall remain in office until their successors are elected;

(*c*) If a President or a Vice-President should cease to be a judge of the Appeals Tribunal or should resign his or her office before the expiration of the normal term, an election shall be held for the purpose of appointing a successor for the unexpired portion of the term;

(*d*) Elections shall be by majority vote. Any judge who cannot attend for that purpose is entitled to vote by correspondence.

Article 2
Functions of the President and Vice-Presidents

1. The President shall direct the work of the Appeals Tribunal and of the Registry, shall represent the Appeals Tribunal in all administrative matters and shall preside at the meetings of the Appeals Tribunal.

2. If the President is unable to act, he or she shall designate one of the Vice-Presidents to act as President. In the absence of any such designation by the President, the First Vice-President or, in the event of the latter's incapacity, the Second Vice-President shall act as President.

3. The President of the Appeals Tribunal may, within seven calendar days of a written request by the President of the Dispute Tribunal, authorize the referral of a case to a panel of three judges of the Dispute Tribunal, when necessary, by reason of the particular complexity or importance of the case.

Article 3
Composition of the Appeals Tribunal for its sessions

1. Unless otherwise decided by the General Assembly, the term of office of the judges of the Appeals Tribunal shall commence on the first day of July following their appointment by the General Assembly.

2. No member of the Appeals Tribunal can be dismissed by the General Assembly unless the other members unanimously agree that he or she is unsuited for further service.

Article 4
Panels

1. The President shall normally designate a panel of three judges to hear a case or a group of cases.

2. When the President or any two judges sitting on a particular case consider that the case so warrants, the case shall be heard by the whole Appeals Tribunal.

Article 5
Ordinary and extraordinary sessions

1. The Appeals Tribunal shall exercise its functions in New York and shall hold ordinary sessions for the purpose of hearing cases. The Appeals Tribunal shall normally hold two ordinary sessions per calendar year and may decide to hold sessions in Geneva or Nairobi, as required by its caseload.

2. Extraordinary sessions for the consideration of cases may be convened by the President when, in his or her opinion, the number or urgency of the cases requires such sessions. Notice of an extraordinary session shall be given to the members of the Tribunal at least 30 days before the opening date of the session.

3. The President shall decide the date and venue of ordinary and extraordinary sessions after consultation with the Registrar.

Article 6
Plenary meetings

1. The Appeals Tribunal shall normally hold four plenary meetings a year, at the beginning and at the end of each of the regular sessions, to deal with questions affecting the administration or operation of the Appeals Tribunal. It shall elect its officers at a plenary meeting, normally the last one in the calendar year.

2. Four judges shall constitute a quorum for plenary meetings of the Appeals Tribunal.

Article 7
Time limits for filing appeals

1. Appeals instituting proceedings shall be submitted to the Appeals Tribunal through the Registrar within:

(*a*) 45 calendar days of the receipt by a party appealing a judgement of the Dispute Tribunal;

(*b*) 90 calendar days of the date of receipt by a party appealing a decision of the Standing Committee acting on behalf of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board; or

(*c*) A time limit fixed by the Appeals Tribunal under article 7.2 of the rules of procedure.

2. In exceptional cases, an appellant may submit a written request to the Appeals Tribunal seeking suspension, waiver or extension of the time limits referred to in article 7.1. The written request shall succinctly set out the exceptional reasons that, in the view of the appellant, justify the request. The written request shall not exceed two pages.

3. In accordance with article 7.4 of the statute of the Appeals Tribunal, no application shall be receivable if filed more than one year after the judgement of the Dispute Tribunal.

Article 8
Appeals

1. Appeals shall be submitted on a prescribed form.

2. The appeal form shall be accompanied by:

(*a*) A brief that explains the legal basis of any of the five grounds for appeal set out in article 2.1 of the statute of the Appeals Tribunal that is relied upon or, in the case of an appeal against a decision of the Standing Committee acting on behalf of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board, a brief containing pleas and an explanatory statement. The brief shall not exceed 15 pages;

(*b*) A copy of each document referred to by the appellant in the appeal, accompanied by a translation into one of the official languages of the United Nations if the original language is not one of the official languages; such documents shall be identified by the word "Annex" at the top of the first page of each document followed by sequential arabic numerals.

3. The signed original appeal form and the annexes thereto shall be submitted together to the Registrar. The documents may be transmitted electronically.

4. After ascertaining that the appeal complies with the requirements of the present article, the Registrar shall transmit a copy of the appeal to the respondent. If the formal requirements of the article are not fulfilled, the Registrar may require the appellant to conform the appeal to the requirements of the article within a specified time. Once the corrections have been properly made, the Registrar shall transmit a copy of the appeal to the respondent.

5. The President may direct the Registrar to inform an appellant that his or her appeal is not receivable because it is not an appeal against either a decision of the Dispute Tribunal or of the Standing Committee acting on behalf of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board, as the case may be.

6. The filing of an appeal shall suspend the execution of the judgement contested.

Article 9
Answers

1. The respondent's answer shall be submitted on a prescribed form.

2. The answer form shall be accompanied by:

(*a*) A brief, which shall not exceed 15 pages, setting out legal arguments in support of the answer;

(*b*) A copy of each document referred to by the respondent in the answer, accompanied by a translation into one of the official languages of the United Nations if the original language is not one of the official languages; such documents shall be identified by the word "Annex" at the top of the first page of each document and an arabic numeral which follows in sequence the numbering of the annexes to the appeal form referred to in article 8.2 (*b*).

3. The signed original answer form and the annexes thereto shall be submitted together to the Registrar within 45 days of the date on which the respondent received the appeal transmitted by the Registrar. The documents may be transmitted electronically.

4. Within 15 days of notice of the appeal, a party answering the appeal may serve a notice of cross-appeal with the Appeals Tribunal stating the relief sought and the grounds of the cross-appeal. The cross-appeal may not add new claims.

5. After ascertaining that the answer complies with the requirements of the present article, the Registrar shall transmit a copy of the answer to the appellant. If the formal requirements of the article are not fulfilled, the Registrar may require the respondent to conform the answer to the requirements of the present article within a specified time. Once the corrections have been properly made, the Registrar shall transmit a copy of the answer to the appellant. If the corrections are not submitted within the established time limit, including any extension granted by the Appeals Tribunal, the preliminary proceedings will be considered closed and the Appeals Tribunal will adjudicate the matter on the basis of the appeal lodged by the appellant.

Article 10
Additional documentary evidence, including written testimony

1. A party may seek to submit to the Appeals Tribunal, with an appeal or an answer, documentary evidence, including written testimony, in addition to that contained in the written record. In exceptional circumstances and where the Appeals Tribunal determines that the facts are likely to be established with such additional documentary evidence, it may receive the additional evidence from a party. On its own volition, the Tribunal may order the production of evidence if it is in the interest of justice and the efficient and expeditious resolution of the case, provided that the Appeals Tribunal shall not receive additional written evidence if it was known to the party seeking to submit the evidence and should have been presented to the Dispute Tribunal.

2. In all other cases where additional findings of fact are needed, the Appeals Tribunal may remand the case to the Dispute Tribunal for further fact-finding. Where the Appeals Tribunal remands a case to the Dispute Tribunal, it may order that the case be considered by a different judge of the Dispute Tribunal.

Article 11
Docket of cases

1. When the President considers the documentation of a case to be sufficiently complete, he or she shall instruct the Registrar to place the case on the docket of cases ready for adjudication by the Appeals Tribunal. The docket for the session shall be communicated to the parties.

2. As soon as the date of opening of the session at which a case listed for hearing has been fixed, the Registrar shall notify the parties thereof.

3. Any request for the adjournment of a case that is listed on the docket shall be decided by the President or, when the Appeals Tribunal is in session, by the judges hearing the case.

Article 12
Working languages

The working languages of the Appeals Tribunal shall be English and French.

Article 13
Representation

1. A party may present his or her case before the Appeals Tribunal in person or may designate counsel from the Office of Staff Legal Assistance or counsel authorized to practice law in a national jurisdiction.

2. A party may also be represented by a staff member or a former staff member of the United Nations or one of the specialized agencies.

Article 14
Waiver of rules concerning written pleadings

Subject to article 7.4 of the statute of the Appeals Tribunal and provided that the waiver does not affect the substance of the case before the Appeals Tribunal, the President may waive the requirements of any article of the rules of procedure dealing with written proceedings.

Article 15
Exclusion of all documents and statements made during mediation

1. Except in cases concerning enforcement of a settlement agreement, all documents prepared for and oral statements made during any informal conflict-resolution process or mediation are absolutely privileged and confidential and shall never be disclosed to the Appeals Tribunal. No mention shall be made of any mediation efforts in documents or written pleadings submitted to the Appeals Tribunal or in any oral arguments made before the Appeals Tribunal.

2. Subject to the provisions of paragraph 1 above, if a document relating to the mediation process is submitted to the Appeals Tribunal, the Registrar shall return that document to the submitting party. If such information is part of the brief or any other written pleadings submitted to the Appeals Tribunal by a party, all pleadings shall be returned to that party for resubmission to the Appeals Tribunal in compliance with paragraph 1 above.

3. Subject to article 7.4 of the statute of the Appeals Tribunal, the President may fix one non-renewable time limit not exceeding five days for the resubmission of the written pleadings if the initial period for the submission of such pleadings has expired.

Article 16
Intervention by persons not party to the case

1. Any person for whom recourse to the Appeals Tribunal is available under article 6.2 (*f*) of the statute may apply to intervene in a case at any stage thereof on the grounds that his or her rights may have been affected by the judgement of the Dispute Tribunal and might, therefore, be affected by the judgement of the Appeals Tribunal.

2. After ascertaining that the requirements of the present article have been complied with, the Registrar shall transmit a copy of the application for intervention to the appellant and to the respondent.

3. The President or, when the Tribunal is in session, the presiding judge of the panel of the Appeals Tribunal hearing the case shall rule on the admissibility of every application for intervention. Such decision shall be final and shall be communicated to the intervener and the parties by the Registrar.

4. An application for intervention shall be submitted on a prescribed form, the signed original of which shall be submitted to the Registrar. It may be transmitted electronically.

Article 17
Friend-of-the-court briefs

1. A person or organization for whom recourse to the Appeals Tribunal is available and staff associations may submit a signed application to file a friend-of-the-court brief, which may be transmitted electronically. The Registrar shall forward a copy of the application to the parties, who shall have three days to file any objections on a prescribed form.

2. The President or the panel hearing the case may grant the application if it considers that the filing of the brief would assist the Appeals Tribunal in its deliberations. The decision will be communicated to the applicant and the parties by the Registrar.

Article 18
Oral proceedings

1. The judges hearing a case may hold oral hearings on the written application of a party or on their own initiative if such hearings would assist in the expeditious and fair disposal of the case.

2. The oral proceedings shall be held in public unless the judges hearing the case decide, on their own initiative or at the request of one of the parties, that exceptional circumstances require that the oral proceedings be closed. If appropriate in the circumstances, the oral hearing may be held by electronic means.

Article 19
Adoption and issuance of judgements

1. Judgements shall be adopted by majority vote. All deliberations shall be kept confidential.

2. Judgements shall be issued in writing and shall state the reasons, facts and law on which they are based.

3. A judge may append a separate, dissenting or concurring opinion.

4. Judgements shall be drawn up in any official language of the United Nations, two signed originals of which shall be deposited in the archives of the United Nations.

5. The Registrar shall transmit a copy of the judgement to each party. An individual appellant or respondent shall receive a copy of the judgement in the language of the appeal or answer, as the case may be, unless a copy is requested in another official language of the United Nations.

6. The Registrar shall send to all judges of the Appeals Tribunal copies of all the decisions of the Appeals Tribunal.

Article 20
Publication of judgements

1. The Registrar shall arrange for publication of the judgements of the Appeals Tribunal on the website of the Appeals Tribunal after they are delivered.

2. The published judgements will normally include the names of the parties.

Article 21
Registry

1. The Appeals Tribunal shall be supported by a Registry, which shall provide all necessary administrative and support services to it.

2. The Registry shall be established in New York and shall be headed by a Registrar appointed by the Secretary-General and such staff as is necessary.

3. The Registrar shall discharge the duties set out in the rules of procedure and shall support the work of the Appeals Tribunal at the direction of the President. In particular, the Registrar shall:

(*a*) Transmit all documents and make all notifications required in the rules of procedure or required by the President or a panel hearing a case in connection with proceedings before the Appeals Tribunal;

(*b*) Establish for each case a master Registry file, which shall record all actions taken in connection with the preparation of the case for hearing, the dates thereof and the dates on which any document or notification forming part of the procedure is received in or dispatched from his or her office;

(*c*) Perform any other duties that are required by the President for the efficient functioning of the Appeals Tribunal and the efficient disposal of its caseload.

4. The Registrar, if unable to act, shall be replaced by an official appointed by the Secretary-General.

Article 22
Conflict of interest

1. The term "conflict of interest" means any factor that may impair or reasonably give the appearance of impairing the ability of a judge to independently and impartially adjudicate a case assigned to him or her.

2. A conflict of interest arises where a case assigned to a judge involves any of the following:

(*a*) A person with whom the judge has a personal, familiar or professional relationship;

(*b*) A matter in which the judge has previously served in another capacity, including as an adviser, counsel, expert or witness;

(*c*) Any other circumstances that would make it appear to a reasonable and impartial observer that the judge's participation in the adjudication of the matter would be inappropriate.

Article 23
Recusal

1. A judge of the Appeals Tribunal who has or appears to have a conflict of interest as defined in article 22 of the rules of procedure shall recuse himself or herself from the case and shall so inform the President.

2. A party may make a reasoned request for the recusal of a judge on the grounds of conflict of interest to the President or the Appeals Tribunal, which, after seeking comments from the judge, shall decide on the request and shall inform the party of the decision in writing.

3. A decision by a judge to recuse himself or herself, or a decision by the President or the Appeals Tribunal to recuse a judge, shall be communicated to the parties concerned by the Registrar.

Article 24
Revision of judgements

Either party may apply to the Appeals Tribunal, on a prescribed form, for a revision of a judgement on the basis of the discovery of a decisive fact that was, at the time the judgement was rendered, unknown to the Appeals Tribunal and to the party applying for revision, always provided that such ignorance was not due to negligence. The application for revision will be sent to the other party, who has 30 days to submit comments to the Registrar on a prescribed form. The application for revision must be made within 30 calendar days of the discovery of the fact and within one year of the date of the judgement.

Article 25
Interpretation of judgements

Either party may apply to the Appeals Tribunal for an interpretation of the meaning or scope of a judgement on a prescribed form. The application for interpretation shall be sent to the other party, who shall have 30 days to submit comments on the application on a prescribed form. The Appeals Tribunal will decide whether to admit the application for interpretation and, if it does so, shall issue its interpretation.

Article 26
Correction of judgements

Clerical or arithmetical mistakes, or errors arising from any accidental slip or omission, may at any time be corrected by the Appeals Tribunal, either on its own initiative or on the application by any of the parties on a prescribed form.

Article 27
Execution of judgements

Where a judgement requires execution within a certain period of time and such execution has not been carried out, either party may apply to the Appeals Tribunal for an order for execution of the judgement.

Article 28
Titles

The titles to the articles in the rules of procedure are for reference purposes only and do not constitute an interpretation of the article concerned.

Article 29
Calculation of time limits

The time limits prescribed in the rules of procedure:

(*a*) Refer to calendar days, but shall not include the day of the event from which the period runs;

(*b*) Shall include the next working day of the Registry when the last day of the period is not a working day;

(*c*) Shall be deemed to have been met if the documents in question were dispatched by reasonable means on the last day of the period.

Article 30
Waiver of time limits

Subject to article 7.4 of the statute of the Appeals Tribunal, the President or the panel hearing a case may shorten or extend a time limit fixed by the rules of procedure or waive any rule when the interests of justice so require.

Article 31
Procedural matters not covered in the rules of procedure

1. All matters that are not expressly provided for in the rules of procedure shall be dealt with by decision of the Appeals Tribunal on the particular case, by virtue of the powers conferred on it by article 6 of its statute.

2. The Appeals Tribunal may issue practice directions related to the implementation of the rules of procedure.

Article 32
Amendment of the rules of procedure

1. The Appeals Tribunal in plenary meeting may adopt amendments to the rules of procedure, which shall be submitted to the General Assembly for approval.

2. The amendments shall operate provisionally until approved by the General Assembly.

3. The President, after consultation with the judges of the Appeals Tribunal, may instruct the Registrar to revise any forms from time to time in the light of experience, provided that such modifications are consistent with the rules of procedure.

Article 33
Entry into force

1. The rules of procedure shall enter into force on the first day of the month following their approval by the General Assembly.

2. The rules of procedure shall operate provisionally from the date of their adoption by the Appeals Tribunal until their entry into force.

RESOLUTION 64/120

Adopted at the 64th plenary meeting, on 16 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/455, para. 8)[87]

64/120. Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country,[88]

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[87] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Bulgaria, Canada, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire and Cyprus.

[88] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 26* (A/64/26).

Recalling Article 105 of the Charter of the United Nations, the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations,[89] the Agreement between the United Nations and the United States of America regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations[90] and the responsibilities of the host country,

Recalling also that, in accordance with paragraph 7 of General Assembly resolution 2819 (XXVI) of 15 December 1971, the Committee should consider, and advise the host country on, issues arising in connection with the implementation of the Agreement between the United Nations and the United States of America regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations,

Recognizing that effective measures should continue to be taken by the competent authorities of the host country, in particular to prevent any acts violating the security of missions and the safety of their personnel,

1. *Endorses* the recommendations and conclusions of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country contained in paragraph 25 of its report;[88]

2. *Considers* that the maintenance of appropriate conditions for the normal work of the delegations and the missions accredited to the United Nations and the observance of their privileges and immunities, which is an issue of great importance, are in the interest of the United Nations and all Member States, and requests the host country to continue to solve, through negotiations, problems that might arise and to take all measures necessary to prevent any interference with the functioning of missions; and urges the host country to continue to take appropriate action, such as training of police, security, customs and border control officers, with a view to maintaining respect for diplomatic privileges and immunities and if violations occur to ensure that such cases are properly investigated and remedied, in accordance with applicable law;

3. *Notes* the problems experienced by some permanent missions in connection with the implementation of the Parking Programme for Diplomatic Vehicles[91] and shall remain seized of the matter, with a view to continuing to maintain the proper implementation of the Parking Programme in a manner that is fair, non-discriminatory, effective and therefore consistent with international law;

4. *Requests* the host country to consider removing the remaining travel restrictions imposed by it on staff of certain missions and staff members of the Secretariat of certain nationalities, and, in this regard, notes the positions of affected States, as reflected in the report of the Committee, of the Secretary-General and of the host country;

5. *Notes* that the Committee anticipates that the host country will enhance its efforts to ensure the issuance of entry visas, in a timely manner, to representatives of Member States, pursuant to article IV, section 11, of the Agreement between the United Nations and the United States of America regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations[90] to travel to New York on United Nations business; and notes that the Committee anticipates that the host country will enhance efforts, including visa issuance, to facilitate the participation of representatives of Member States in other United Nations meetings as appropriate;

6. *Notes also* that a number of delegations have requested shortening the time frame applied by the host country for issuance of entry visas to representatives of Member States, since this time frame poses difficulties for the full-fledged participation of Member States in United Nations meetings;

7. *Expresses its appreciation* for the efforts made by the host country, and hopes that the issues raised at the meetings of the Committee will continue to be resolved in a spirit of cooperation and in accordance with international law;

8. *Affirms* the importance of the Committee being in a position to fulfil its mandate and meet on short notice to deal with urgent and important matters concerning the relations between the United Nations and the host country, and in that connection requests the Secretariat and the Committee on Conferences to accord priority to requests from the Committee on Relations with the Host Country for conference-servicing facilities for meetings of that Committee that must be held while the General Assembly and its Main Committees are meeting, without prejudice to the requirements of those bodies and on an "as available" basis;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to remain actively engaged in all aspects of the relations of the United Nations with the host country;

10. *Requests* the Committee to continue its work in conformity with General Assembly resolution 2819 (XXVI);

11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled "Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country".

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[89] Resolution 22 A (I).

[90] See resolution 169 (II).

[91] A/AC.154/355, annex.

RESOLUTION 64/121

Adopted at the 64th plenary meeting, on 16 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/456, para. 8)[92]

64/121. Observer status for the International Humanitarian Fact-Finding Commission in the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Wishing to promote cooperation between the United Nations and the International Humanitarian Fact-Finding Commission,

1. *Decides* to invite the International Humanitarian Fact-Finding Commission to participate in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly in the capacity of observer;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary action to implement the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 64/122

Adopted at the 64th plenary meeting, on 16 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/457, para. 8)[93]

64/122. Observer status for the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria in the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Wishing to promote cooperation between the United Nations and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria,

1. *Decides* to invite the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria to participate in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly in the capacity of observer;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary action to implement the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 64/123

Adopted at the 64th plenary meeting, on 16 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/459, para. 7)[94]

64/123. Observer status for the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region of Africa in the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Wishing to promote cooperation between the United Nations and the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region of Africa,

1. *Decides* to invite the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region of Africa to participate in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly in the capacity of observer;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary action to implement the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 64/124

Adopted at the 64th plenary meeting, on 16 December 2009, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/64/567, para. 7)[95]

64/124. Observer status for the Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean in the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Wishing to promote cooperation between the United Nations and the Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean,

1. *Decides* to invite the Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean to participate in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly in the capacity of observer;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary action to implement the present resolution.

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[92] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Canada, Central African Republic, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Greece, Guinea, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Mali, Malta, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Uruguay.

[93] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chile, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Liberia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Monaco, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Portugal, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovenia, Spain, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

[94] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Angola, Australia, Benin, Burundi, Central African Republic, Congo, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Egypt, Finland, Gabon, Ireland, Kenya, Madagascar, New Zealand, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Serbia, Sudan, Tunisia, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania and Zambia.

[95] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by France and Malta.

Annex I

Allocation of agenda items[a]

Plenary meetings

1. Opening of the session by the President of the General Assembly.

2. Minute of silent prayer or meditation.

3. Credentials of representatives to the sixty-fourth session of the General Assembly:

   (*a*) Appointment of the members of the Credentials Committee;

   (*b*) Report of the Credentials Committee.

4. Election of the President of the General Assembly.

6. Election of the Vice-Presidents of the General Assembly.

7. Organization of work, adoption of the agenda and allocation of items: reports of the General Committee.

8. General debate.

A. Maintenance of international peace and security

9. Report of the Security Council.

10. Report of the Peacebuilding Commission.

11. Support by the United Nations system of the efforts of Governments to promote and consolidate new or restored democracies.

12. The role of diamonds in fuelling conflict.

13. Prevention of armed conflict.

14. Protracted conflicts in the GUAM area and their implications for international peace, security and development.

15. The situation in the Middle East.

16. Question of Palestine.

17. The situation in Afghanistan.

18. The situation in the occupied territories of Azerbaijan.

19. Necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against Cuba.

20. The situation in Central America: progress in fashioning a region of peace, freedom, democracy and development.

21. Question of Cyprus.

22. Armed aggression against the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

23. Question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas).

24. The situation of democracy and human rights in Haiti.

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[a] Organized under headings corresponding to the priorities of the Organization.

25. Armed Israeli aggression against the Iraqi nuclear installations and its grave consequences for the established international system concerning the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons and international peace and security.

26. Consequences of the Iraqi occupation of and aggression against Kuwait.

B. Promotion of sustained economic growth and sustainable development in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and recent United Nations conferences

42. Report of the Economic and Social Council.

43. Return or restitution of cultural property to the countries of origin.

44. Implementation of the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS and the Political Declaration on HIV/AIDS.

45. Sport for peace and development: building a peaceful and better world through sport and the Olympic ideal.

46. Global road safety crisis.

47. 2001–2010: Decade to Roll Back Malaria in Developing Countries, Particularly in Africa.

48. Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields.

49. Culture of peace.

52. Follow-up to and implementation of the outcome of the 2002 International Conference on Financing for Development and the 2008 Review Conference.

C. Development of Africa

63. New Partnership for Africa's Development: progress in implementation and international support:

    (*a*) New Partnership for Africa's Development: progress in implementation and international support;

    (*b*) Causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa.

D. Promotion of human rights

64. Report of the Human Rights Council.

69. Promotion and protection of human rights.

E. Effective coordination of humanitarian assistance efforts

70. Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance:

    (*a*) Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations;

    (*b*) Assistance to the Palestinian people.

71. Assistance to survivors of the 1994 genocide in Rwanda, particularly orphans, widows and victims of sexual violence.

F. Promotion of justice and international law

72. Report of the International Court of Justice.

73. Report of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994.

74. Report of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991.

75. Report of the International Criminal Court.

76. Oceans and the law of the sea:

    (*a*) Oceans and the law of the sea;

    (*b*) Sustainable fisheries, including through the 1995 Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks, and related instruments.

77. Request for an advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on whether the unilateral declaration of independence of Kosovo is in accordance with international law.

G. Disarmament

85. Report of the International Atomic Energy Agency.

H. Drug control, crime prevention and combating international terrorism in all its forms and manifestations

105. International drug control.

I. Organizational, administrative and other matters

107. Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization.

108. Report of the Secretary-General on the Peacebuilding Fund.

109. Notification by the Secretary-General under Article 12, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations.

110. Elections to fill vacancies in principal organs:

    (*a*) Election of five non-permanent members of the Security Council;

    (*b*) Election of eighteen members of the Economic and Social Council.

111. Elections to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other elections:

    (*a*) Election of seven members of the Committee for Programme and Coordination;

    (*b*) Election of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees;

    (*c*) Election of thirty members of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law;

    (*d*) Election of the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme;

    (*e*) Election of twenty-nine members of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme;

    (*f*) Election of the Executive Director of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme;

    (*g*) Election of two members of the Organizational Committee of the Peacebuilding Commission;

    (*h*) Election of fourteen members of the Human Rights Council.

112. Appointments to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other appointments:

    (*f*) Appointment of members of the Committee on Conferences;

    (*g*) Appointment of members of the Joint Inspection Unit;

(*h*) Appointment of members of the Consultative Committee of the United Nations Development Fund for Women;

(*i*) Appointment of the Under-Secretary-General for Internal Oversight Services;

(*j*) Appointment of three ad litem judges of the United Nations Dispute Tribunal.

113. Admission of new Members to the United Nations.

114. Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit.

115. The United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.

116. Follow-up to the commemoration of the two-hundredth anniversary of the abolition of the transatlantic slave trade.

117. Implementation of the resolutions of the United Nations.

118. Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly.

119. Question of equitable representation on and increase in the membership of the Security Council and related matters.

120. Strengthening of the United Nations system.

121. United Nations reform: measures and proposals.

122. Follow-up to the recommendations on administrative management and internal oversight of the Independent Inquiry Committee into the United Nations Oil-for-Food Programme.

123. Global health and foreign policy.

124. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization.

125. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Collective Security Treaty Organization.

126. Sixty-fifth anniversary of the end of the Second World War.

127. International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994.

128. International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991.

133. Programme planning.

First Committee

5. Election of the officers of the Main Committees.

G. Disarmament

86. Reduction of military budgets:

(*a*) Reduction of military budgets;

(*b*) Objective information on military matters, including transparency of military expenditures.

87. Implementation of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace.

88. African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty.

89. Verification in all its aspects, including the role of the United Nations in the field of verification.

90. Review of the implementation of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security.

91. Developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security.

92. Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East.

93. Conclusion of effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons.

94. Prevention of an arms race in outer space.

95. Role of science and technology in the context of international security and disarmament.

96. General and complete disarmament:

    (*a*) Notification of nuclear tests;

    (*b*) Follow-up to nuclear disarmament obligations agreed to at the 1995 and 2000 Review Conferences of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons;

    (*c*) Treaty on the South-East Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone (Bangkok Treaty);

    (*d*) Prohibition of the dumping of radioactive wastes;

    (*e*) Preventing the acquisition by terrorists of radioactive materials and sources;

    (*f*) Regional disarmament;

    (*g*) Conventional arms control at the regional and subregional levels;

    (*h*) Confidence-building measures in the regional and subregional context;

    (*i*) Nuclear disarmament;

    (*j*) Reducing nuclear danger;

    (*k*) Implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction;

    (*l*) Follow-up to the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons*;

    (*m*) Promotion of multilateralism in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation;

    (*n*) Observance of environmental norms in the drafting and implementation of agreements on disarmament and arms control;

    (*o*) Relationship between disarmament and development;

    (*p*) Towards a nuclear-weapon-free world: accelerating the implementation of nuclear disarmament commitments;

    (*q*) Measures to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction;

    (*r*) Problems arising from the accumulation of conventional ammunition stockpiles in surplus;

    (*s*) The Hague Code of Conduct against Ballistic Missile Proliferation;

    (*t*) Nuclear-weapon-free southern hemisphere and adjacent areas;

    (*u*) Assistance to States for curbing the illicit traffic in small arms and light weapons and collecting them;

    (*v*) Transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities;

    (*w*) Transparency in armaments;

    (*x*) The illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects;

    (*y*) Renewed determination towards the total elimination of nuclear weapons;

  - (*z*) Towards an arms trade treaty: establishing common international standards for the import, export and transfer of conventional arms;
  - (*aa*) Convening of the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament;
  - (*bb*) United Nations conference to identify appropriate ways of eliminating nuclear dangers in the context of nuclear disarmament.

97. Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly:
    - (*a*) United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean;
    - (*b*) Convention on the Prohibition of the Use of Nuclear Weapons;
    - (*c*) United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament;
    - (*d*) United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific;
    - (*e*) Regional confidence-building measures: activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa;
    - (*f*) United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa.

98. Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session:
    - (*a*) Report of the Conference on Disarmament;
    - (*b*) Report of the Disarmament Commission.

99. The risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East.

100. Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects.

101. Strengthening of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region.

102. Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty.

103. Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction.

I. Organizational, administrative and other matters

118. Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly.

133. Programme planning.

Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

5. Election of the officers of the Main Committees.

A. Maintenance of international peace and security

27. University for Peace.

28. Assistance in mine action.

29. Effects of atomic radiation.

30. International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space.

31. United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East.

32. Report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories.

33. Comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects.

34. Questions relating to information.

35. Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations.

36. Economic and other activities which affect the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories.

37. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations.

38. Offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories.

39. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

I. Organizational, administrative and other matters

118. Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly.

133. Programme planning.

Second Committee

5. Election of the officers of the Main Committees.

A. Maintenance of international peace and security

40. Permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources.

B. Promotion of sustained economic growth and sustainable development in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and recent United Nations conferences

50. Information and communication technologies for development.

51. Macroeconomic policy questions:

    (*a*) International trade and development;

    (*b*) International financial system and development;

    (*c*) External debt and development: towards a durable solution to the debt problems of developing countries;

    (*d*) Commodities.

52. Follow-up to and implementation of the outcome of the 2002 International Conference on Financing for Development and the 2008 Review Conference.

53. Sustainable development:

    (*a*) Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development;

    (*b*) Follow-up to and implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States;

    (*c*) International Strategy for Disaster Reduction;

- (*d*) Protection of global climate for present and future generations;
- (*e*) Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa;
- (*f*) Convention on Biological Diversity;
- (*g*) Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its twenty-fifth session;
- (*h*) Sustainable mountain development;
- (*i*) Promotion of new and renewable sources of energy.

54. Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat).

55. Globalization and interdependence:
    - (*a*) Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence;
    - (*b*) Preventing and combating corrupt practices and transfer of assets of illicit origin and returning such assets, in particular to the countries of origin, consistent with the United Nations Convention against Corruption;
    - (*c*) Science and technology for development.

56. Groups of countries in special situations:
    - (*a*) Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries;
    - (*b*) Specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries: outcome of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation.

57. Eradication of poverty and other development issues:
    - (*a*) Implementation of the second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008–2017);
    - (*b*) Women in development;
    - (*c*) Human resources development.

58. Operational activities for development:
    - (*a*) Operational activities for development of the United Nations system;
    - (*b*) South-South cooperation for development.

59. Towards global partnerships.

60. Agriculture development and food security.

170. United Nations University.

I. Organizational, administrative and other matters

118. Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly.

133. Programme planning.

Third Committee

5. Election of the officers of the Main Committees.

A. Maintenance of international peace and security

41. Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, questions relating to refugees, returnees and displaced persons and humanitarian questions.

B. Promotion of sustained economic growth and sustainable development in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and recent United Nations conferences

61. Social development:
    - (*a*) Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly;
    - (*b*) Social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, ageing, disabled persons and the family;
    - (*c*) Follow-up to the International Year of Older Persons: Second World Assembly on Ageing.

62. Advancement of women:
    - (*a*) Advancement of women;
    - (*b*) Implementation of the outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women and of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly.

D. Promotion of human rights

64. Report of the Human Rights Council.

65. Promotion and protection of the rights of children:
    - (*a*) Promotion and protection of the rights of children;
    - (*b*) Follow-up to the outcome of the special session on children.

66. Indigenous issues:
    - (*a*) Indigenous issues;
    - (*b*) Second International Decade of the World's Indigenous People.

67. Elimination of racism and racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance:
    - (*a*) Elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;
    - (*b*) Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action.

68. Right of peoples to self-determination.

69. Promotion and protection of human rights:
    - (*a*) Implementation of human rights instruments;
    - (*b*) Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms;
    - (*c*) Human rights situations and reports of special rapporteurs and representatives;
    - (*d*) Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action.

H. Drug control, crime prevention and combating international terrorism in all its forms and manifestations

104. Crime prevention and criminal justice.

105. International drug control.

I. Organizational, administrative and other matters

118. Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly.

133. Programme planning.

Fifth Committee

5. Election of the officers of the Main Committees.

I. Organizational, administrative and other matters

112. Appointments to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other appointments:
    - (*a*) Appointment of members of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;
    - (*b*) Appointment of members of the Committee on Contributions;
    - (*c*) Confirmation of the appointment of members of the Investments Committee;
    - (*d*) Appointment of a member of the Board of Auditors;
    - (*e*) Appointment of members of the International Civil Service Commission:
        - (i) Appointment of members of the Commission;
        - (ii) Designation of the Vice-Chairman of the Commission.
118. Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly.
129. Financial reports and audited financial statements, and reports of the Board of Auditors:
    - (*a*) United Nations peacekeeping operations;
    - (*b*) Voluntary funds administered by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees;
    - (*c*) Capital master plan.
130. Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations.
131. Programme budget for the biennium 2008–2009.
132. Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2010–2011.
133. Programme planning.
134. Improving the financial situation of the United Nations.
135. Pattern of conferences.
136. Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations.
137. Human resources management.
138. Joint Inspection Unit.
139. United Nations common system.
140. Report on the activities of the Office of Internal Oversight Services.
141. Review of the implementation of General Assembly resolutions 48/218 B, 54/244 and 59/272.

142. Administration of justice at the United Nations.

143. Financing of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994.

144. Financing of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991.

145. Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of United Nations peacekeeping operations.

146. Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations.

147. Financing of the United Nations Operation in Burundi.

148. Financing of the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire.

149. Financing of the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus.

150. Financing of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

151. Financing of the United Nations Mission in East Timor.

152. Financing of the United Nations Integrated Mission in Timor-Leste.

153. Financing of the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea.

154. Financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia.

155. Financing of the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti.

156. Financing of the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo.

157. Financing of the United Nations Mission in Liberia.

158. Financing of the United Nations peacekeeping forces in the Middle East:

    (*a*) United Nations Disengagement Observer Force;

    (*b*) United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon.

159. Financing of the United Nations Mission in the Sudan.

160. Financing of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara.

161. Financing of the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur.

162. Financing of the United Nations Mission in the Central African Republic and Chad.

163. Financing of the activities arising from Security Council resolution 1863 (2009).

Sixth Committee

5. Election of the officers of the Main Committees.

F. Promotion of justice and international law

78. Criminal accountability of United Nations officials and experts on mission.

79. Report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on the work of its forty-second session.

80. United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law.

81. Report of the International Law Commission on the work of its sixty-first session.

82. Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization.

83. The rule of law at the national and international levels.

84. The scope and application of the principle of universal jurisdiction.

H. Drug control, crime prevention and combating international terrorism in all its forms and manifestations

106. Measures to eliminate international terrorism.

I. Organizational, administrative and other matters

118. Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly.

133. Programme planning.

142. Administration of justice at the United Nations.

164. Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country.

165. Observer status for the International Humanitarian Fact-Finding Commission in the General Assembly.

166. Observer status for the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria in the General Assembly.

167. Observer status for the International Olympic Committee in the General Assembly.

168. Observer status for the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region of Africa in the General Assembly.

169. Observer status for the Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean in the General Assembly;

171. Observer status in the General Assembly for the Council of Presidents of the General Assembly.

Annex II

Checklist of resolutions

Resolution number	*Title*	*Item*	*Plenary meeting*	*Date of adoption*	*Page*
64/1.	High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation	114	15th	6 October 2009	3
64/2.	Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations: requests under Article 19 of the Charter	136	16th	8 October 2009	500
64/3.	Observer status for the International Olympic Committee in the General Assembly	167	21st	19 October 2009	554
64/4.	Building a peaceful and better world through sport and the Olympic ideal	45	21st	19 October 2009	4
64/5.	2010 International Federation of Association Football World Cup in South Africa	45	21st	19 October 2009	5
64/6.	Necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against Cuba	19	27th	28 October 2009	6
64/7.	International Commission against Impunity in Guatemala	20	28th	28 October 2009	7
64/8.	Report of the International Atomic Energy Agency	85	34th	2 November 2009	8
64/9.	Report of the International Criminal Court	75	34th	2 November 2009	9
64/10.	Follow-up to the report of the United Nations Fact-Finding Mission on the Gaza Conflict	64	39th	5 November 2009	11
64/11.	The situation in Afghanistan	17	40th	9 November 2009	12
64/12.	Support by the United Nations system of the efforts of Governments to promote and consolidate new or restored democracies	11	41st	9 November 2009	21
64/13.	Nelson Mandela International Day	49	42nd	10 November 2009	23
64/14.	The Alliance of Civilizations	49	42nd	10 November 2009	24
64/15.	Permanent memorial to and remembrance of the victims of slavery and the transatlantic slave trade	116	47th	16 November 2009	25
64/16.	Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People	16	54th	2 December 2009	26
64/17.	Division for Palestinian Rights of the Secretariat	16	54th	2 December 2009	27
64/18.	Special information programme on the question of Palestine of the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat	16	54th	2 December 2009	28
64/19.	Peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine	16	54th	2 December 2009	30
64/20.	Jerusalem	15	54th	2 December 2009	34
64/21.	The Syrian Golan	15	54th	2 December 2009	35

Resolution number	*Title*	*Item*	*Plenary meeting*	*Date of adoption*	*Page*
64/22.	Objective information on military matters, including transparency of military expenditures	86 (*b*)	55th	2 December 2009	115
64/23.	Implementation of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace	87	55th	2 December 2009	116
64/24.	African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty	88	55th	2 December 2009	117
64/25.	Developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security	91	55th	2 December 2009	118
64/26.	Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East	92	55th	2 December 2009	120
64/27.	Conclusion of effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons	93	55th	2 December 2009	121
64/28.	Prevention of an arms race in outer space	94	55th	2 December 2009	123
64/29.	Treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices	96	55th	2 December 2009	125
64/30.	Assistance to States for curbing the illicit traffic in small arms and light weapons and collecting them	96 (*u*)	55th	2 December 2009	125
64/31.	Follow-up to nuclear disarmament obligations agreed to at the 1995 and 2000 Review Conferences of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons	96 (*b*)	55th	2 December 2009	127
64/32.	Relationship between disarmament and development	96 (*o*)	55th	2 December 2009	128
64/33.	Observance of environmental norms in the drafting and implementation of agreements on disarmament and arms control	96 (*n*)	55th	2 December 2009	130
64/34.	Promotion of multilateralism in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation	96 (*m*)	55th	2 December 2009	130
64/35.	International Day against Nuclear Tests	96	55th	2 December 2009	132
64/36.	Convention on Cluster Munitions	96	55th	2 December 2009	132
64/37.	Reducing nuclear danger	96 (*j*)	55th	2 December 2009	133
64/38.	Measures to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction	96 (*q*)	55th	2 December 2009	134
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